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**Geology and tectono-metamorphic evolution of the
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Karnali transect, Western Nepal (Central Himalaya)**

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Geology and tectono-metamorphic evolution of the Himalayan Metamorphic Core: insights from the Mugu Karnali transect, Western Nepal (Central Himalaya)

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ABSTRACT

We present new structural and tectono-metamorphic data from a geological transect along the Mugu Karnali valley, in Western Nepal (Central Himalaya), where an almost continuous cross section from the Lesser Himalaya Sequence to the Everest Series through the medium-high-grade Greater Himalayan Sequence (GHS) is exposed. Detailed meso- and micro-structural analyses were carried out along the transect. Pressure (P) -temperature (T) conditions and *P-T*-deformation paths for samples from different structural units were derived by calculating pseudosections in the MnNKCFMASHT system. Systematic increase of *P-T* conditions, from ~ 0.75 GPa–560 °C up to ≥1.0 GPa–750°C have been detected starting from the garnet zone up to the K-feldspar + aluminosilicate zone. Our investigation reveals how these units are characterized by different evolutions and well-developed tectonic boundaries. Integrating our meso- and micro-structural data with those of metamorphism and geochronology, a diachronism in deformation and metamorphism

can be highlighted along the transect, where different crustal slices were underthrust, metamorphosed and exhumed at different times.

The GHS is not a single tectonic unit, but it is composed of (at least) three different crustal slices, in agreement with a model of in-sequence shearing by accretion of material from the Indian plate, where coeval activity of basal thrusting at the bottom with normal shearing at the top of the GHS is not strictly required for its exhumation.

Key words: Greater Himalayan Sequence; Himalayan metamorphic core; pseudosection; Himalayan tectonics; Western Nepal geology

INTRODUCTION

The Himalayan range, extending for over 2400 km (Fig. 1), played a central role in shaping our understanding on the formation of mountains belt due to the collision of continental plates (Kohn, 2014 and references therein). In spite of its apparent structural simplicity several geodynamic processes, which are currently among the major topics in geosciences, have been developed looking to the Himalayas, such as: (i) syn-convergence extension along crustal scale detachment coeval with basal thrusting at the South Tibetan Detachment System (STDS) and Main Central Thrust (MCT) and its implications on the exhumation of deep-seated crustal rocks *i.e.* the Greater Himalayan Sequence (GHS, *e.g.* Teyssier, 2011); (ii) feedback relations between climate, crustal melting and tectonics (*e.g.* Jamieson & Beaumont, 2013).

Notwithstanding this progress, there are several Himalayan areas where the present geological knowledge is still very poor. Western Nepal, in the Central Himalaya, is among these areas, even if several important contributions are published (*e.g.* Hagen, 1969; Fuchs, 1974, 1977; Arita *et al.*, 1984; Robinson *et al.*, 2007; Carosi *et al.*, 2007, 2010; Yakymchuk & Godin, 2012; Montomoli *et al.*, 2013).

In Western Nepal two recent findings newly opened the discussion on exhumation mechanisms of crystalline rocks in the Himalayas: (i) Bertoldi *et al.* (2011) and Carosi *et al.* (2013) described a large (~110 km²) Higher Himalayan leucogranite (HHL), named Bura Buri granite, which intruded the upper part of the GHS up to the low grade Tethyan Sedimentary Sequence (TSS) at *c.* 24–23 Ma (zircon and monazite, U-Pb ages). These data constrain that the STDS age is older than *c.* 24 Ma in this transect. (ii) Montomoli *et al.* (2013, 2015) described the kinematics, timing and metamorphic consequences of a high temperature (HT) shear zone occurring within the core of the GHS, called Mangri Shear Zone (MSZ). These findings, in conjunction with others (*e.g.* Carosi *et al.*, 2010; Larson *et al.*, 2013; Wang *et al.*, 2014; Accarino *et al.*, 2014), reveal the structural complexity of the GHS (*e.g.* Montomoli *et al.*, 2015; Cottle *et al.*, 2015).

In this contribution, we describe the main geological features along a structural transect in the Mugu Karnali Valley (Western Nepal, Fig. 1), presenting new structural and metamorphic data of this poorly investigated area (Fig. 1c) where, despite the previous contributions (Bertoldi *et al.* 2011; Carosi *et al.*, 2013; Montomoli *et al.*, 2013), a complete structural and profile is still lacking. Moreover, combining data with available geochronological data for this transect and nearby areas, we constrain the tectono-metamorphic evolution of the Himalayan metamorphic core (HMC) in this area. We also discuss the tectonic and geodynamic implications of these findings in the light of the results by Carosi *et al.* (2013, 2016) and Montomoli *et al.*, (2013, 2015).

GEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

The Himalayan belt (Fig. 1a) is mainly composed of continuous packages of imbricated litho-tectonic units (Le Fort, 1975; Hodges, 2000). Among these units, the GHS (Fig. 1), made of medium- to high-grade metamorphic rocks and Cenozoic leucogranites (HHL, Visonà *et al.*, 2012), represents the exhumed mid-crustal core of the Himalaya (Hodges, 2000; Cottle *et al.*, 2015). Classically, GHS rocks have been subdivided in three main “formations” (Le Fort, 1975), now referred as units (*e.g.* Searle & Godin, 2003). The structurally lower one, Unit 1, consists of garnet-

and kyanite-bearing [metapelite](#), subordinate quartzite, calcsilicate, migmatite and marble. The structurally intermediate Unit 2 is composed of medium to high-grade calcsilicate, minor marble and metapelite. The structurally highest Unit 3 consists of orthogneiss and kyanite/sillimanite-bearing migmatite, with minor calcsilicate gneiss.

Two main peculiarities in the GHS have been described (Hodges 2000 and references therein): (i) the recognition of an inverse metamorphic field gradient with high-grade “Barrovian” minerals appearing structurally upward (Le Fort, 1975). (ii) the fact that the GHS is tectonically bounded by two crustal scale shear zones with opposite sense of shear: a basal ductile to brittle reverse shear zone, the MCT (*e.g.* Heim & Gansser 1939), thrusting the GHS above the Lesser Himalaya Sequence (LHS) made of medium- to low-grade metamorphic rocks (Hodges, 2000) of Palaeoproterozoic-Mesoproterozoic age (Upreti, 1999); and an upper, ductile to brittle detachment system of normal faults, the STDS (Burg *et al.*, 1984; Carosi *et al.*, 1998), through which Cambrian (?) to Eocene (*e.g.* Garzanti, 1999 and reference therein) sedimentary rocks of the Tethyan Sedimentary Sequence (TSS) are tectonically juxtaposed above the GHS.

Metamorphism in the GHS has been classically subdivided in two main stages (*e.g.* Vannay & Hodges, 1996; Hodges, 2000). The older one is the Eocene-Oligocene Eohimalayan stage, where high-pressure (kyanite-bearing) assemblages developed (Vannay & Hodges, 1996; Iaccarino *et al.*, 2015). It was followed by the Neohimalayan stage starting in the Early Miocene. Medium- to low-pressure (sillimanite to cordierite) bearing assemblages, extensive melting (HHL production), and coeval slip along the STDS and MCT (*e.g.* Godin *et al.*, 2006 and references therein) characterize this stage. Some authors (*e.g.* Cottle *et al.*, 2015) refer collectively to the pervasively deformed and metamorphosed rocks during the India-Asia continental collision as the Himalayan Metamorphic Core (HMC).

MUGU KARNALI: A GEOLOGICAL TRANSECT

101 The Mugu Karnali valley (Figs 1b,c) trends nearly E-W and provides about 30-40 km of nearly
 102 continuous outcrops along the main tectono-metamorphic units (Montomoli *et al.*, 2013). The area
 103 was partly mapped in the 1970's by Fuchs and co-workers (e.g. Fuchs, 1974, 1977 and references
 104 therein).
 105 In this contribution a detailed structural and metamorphic map is presented (Figs 1c & 2). The
 106 distribution of isograd-minerals is based on the “first Barrovian mineral appearance/disappearance”
 107 integrating field observations with optical/scanning-electron microscope data from over 200 thin
 108 sections. The general architecture is represented by a NE-E dipping homoclinal slab (Fig. 2). The
 109 lower tectonic unit, the LHS, is composed of quartzite with preserved primary structures, marble,
 110 dolomitic marble, graphitic schist and minor metabasite. The LHS main foliation ($S_{P(LHS)}$), parallel
 111 to the axial plane of tight to isoclinal folds, strikes NW-SE and dips to NE (Fig. 1c). Meso- and
 112 micro-structural analyses reveal that the $S_{P(LHS)}$ is a second phase foliation since relicts of an older
 113 continuous to spaced foliation ($S_{P-1(LHS)}$) are recognizable both at the meso- and at the microscale.
 114 The mineral and aggregate lineation ($L_{P(LHS)}$) generally trends NE-SW and moderately plunges to
 115 the NE (Fig. 1c). Deformation and metamorphism increase structurally upward, with the
 116 development of L-tectonite, defined by the alignment of chlorite within LHS quartzite (Fig. 2a) and
 117 the development of garnet-chlorite-biotite bearing phyllite (Grt I zone) just below the tectonic
 118 contact between the LHS and the GHS (). This contact, in the studied area, is neither a
 119 sharp fault nor a protolith boundary (see also Carosi *et al.*, 2007; Searle *et al.*, 2008), but it is a large
 120 (several km thick) ductile shear zone affecting both quartzite and garnet-biotite bearing phyllites
 121 (Grt II zone) and higher grade metamorphic rocks of the GHS. For this reason, we refer to this high
 122 strain zone as Main Central Thrust Zone (MCTZ in , Carosi *et al.*, 2007). Within the
 123 MCTZ a NW-SE striking mylonitic foliation is developed and kinematic indicators such as S-C-C'
 124 fabric, asymmetric porphyroclasts and quartz sigmoids point to a top-to-the W-SW sense of shear
 125 (Fig. 1c) occur. The main GHS foliation ($S_{P(GHS)}$), dipping mainly toward E (Fig. 1c) strikes NW-
 126 SE and NNE-SSW when moving upward in the section. An older foliation ($S_{P-1(GHS)}$) is sporadically

observed both at the meso- and microscale. The mineral lineation ($L_{P(GHS)}$) trends mainly NE-SW and plunges moderately to the E-NE (Fig. 2c). An inverse metamorphic gradient is observed in the field within the GHS (Figs 1c & 2) and confirmed by the study of thin-sections starting from garnet-biotite-bearing rocks up to garnet-kyanite-biotite paragneiss and sillimanite-bearing gneiss, moving structurally upward.

Following Larson *et al.* (2010) the GHS in the study area has been subdivided (Figs 1c & 2) into the lower GHS (GHS_L) and the upper GHS (GHS_U). These subunits are separated by a tectono-metamorphic discontinuity (MSZ) described in detail by Montomoli *et al.* (2013). It is worthy of note that this subdivision is different from the one proposed by Fuchs (1977) who mapped two main crystalline nappes, a Lower Crystalline Nappe, roughly between Gamgadhi and Kumpha villages (included now mainly in the MCTZ, Fig. 1c), and an Upper Crystalline Nappe (from Kumpha up to the E) only partially mapped by the former author (now a part of the GHS).

The GHS_L consists mainly of quartzite, metapelite and orthogneiss, with minor calcsilicate and amphibolite (Fig 2b,c). The first appearance of sillimanite, as rare fibrolite, has been recognized within orthogneiss SW of the village of Mangri (Fig. 1c). Here, cusate-lobate structures between competent orthogneiss and less competent metapelite and tourmaline-bearing leucocratic magmatic pods and minor anatectites occur. Structurally upward, mylonitic gneiss and micaschist of the MSZ mark the bottom of the GHS_U (Figs 2d,e) which contains sillimanite + white mica-bearing paragneiss and micaschist, K-feldspar + aluminosilicate-bearing migmatite, HHL and minor clinopyroxene-bearing calcsilicate. Relicts of kyanite, partially replaced by sillimanite have been detected.

A newly identified, HT contractional shear zone, named Tiyaar Shear Zone (TSZ) (Figs 1c & 2), marks the base of the migmatitic complex. The appearance of the TSZ coincides with the disappearance of white mica (aluminosilicate + K-feldspar isograd). The main mylonitic foliation, reworking the migmatitic fabric (Fig. 2d), is concordant with that one of the host gneisses. The stretching lineation, marked by sillimanite and quartz-feldspathic grains, dips to the E-NE (Fig.

153 1c). Top-to-the W-SW kinematic indicators such as quartzo-feldspathic sigmoidal pods (Fig. 2d), S-
 154 C fabric, garnet and K-feldspar porphyroclasts occur in the TSZ.

155 The migmatitic complex is made of stromatic metatexite (with minor diatexite) with alternations of
 156 leucosome and melanosome, both containing garnet and aluminosilicate (Figs 2e & 3a,b).

157 Leucocratic veinlets discordant to the main foliation are also observed (Fig. 3b). The truly anatectic
 158 nature of these rocks, besides field observations, is supported by observations on thin sections.

159 Typical (*e.g.* Vernon, 2011) microstructures of melt-bearing rocks are observed (Figs 3c-f), such as:
 160 (i) euhedral crystals (*e.g.* feldspar) interpreted as precipitated from a melt (Figs 3a,c); (ii) corroded
 161 quartz grains rimmed by feldspar forming tiny films with low dihedral angles, interpreted as melt
 162 pseudomorphs (Fig. 3d); (iii) clusters of tiny poly-mineralic, K-feldspar-bearing inclusions, that are
 163 likely nanogranitoids (Cesare B., [personal communication](#), 2014; *e.g.* Bartoli et al., 2016) within
 164 peritectic garnet (Fig. 3f). The migmatitic complex is intruded on the northern side of the mapped
 165 area by a pluri-kilometric leucogranite, the Mugu granite (Figs 1c & 2), which is often referred in
 166 the geological literature as Mugu-Dolpo-Mustang granite (*e.g.* Le Fort & France-Lanord, 1995),
 167 although its continuity from the Dolpo-Mustang region to the Mugu area has not been demonstrated
 168 yet. The Mugu leucogranite contains K-feldspar-plagioclase-quartz-white mica-biotite \pm tourmaline
 169 \pm garnet typical for peraluminous granites. Few geochronological data are available for the Mugu-
 170 Dolpo-Mustang granite: Harrison *et al.* (1999) reported an age of 17.6 ± 0.3 Ma (Th-Pb on
 171 monazite); Guillot *et al.* (1999) published white mica and biotite Ar-Ar ages of *c.* 17-15 Ma. These
 172 geochronological results refer to sample locations, which are more than 100 km away from the
 173 Mugu *sensu stricto* granite.

174 South of the Mugu granite (Fig. 1c), [structurally above the migmatitic complex](#), leucogranitic dyke
 175 swarms intrude intercalations of calcsilicate and low-grade biotite-bearing metapsammopelite. The
 176 main foliation [strikes ENE-WSW](#) dipping towards S-SE (Fig. 1c). Mineral lineations defined by
 177 biotite are present with [an ENE-WSW](#) trend plunging to the SW. The base of these rocks is strongly
 178 deformed with zoned calcsilicates showing symmetric and asymmetric boudins. Observations on

two orthogonal outcrop surfaces suggest a strain pattern typical of field I of Ramsay & Huber (1983). Rare kinematic indicators such as flanking folds (Fig. 2f), point to a top to the S/SE sense of shear. This situation is comparable with the one on the southern side (Fig. 1c) of the studied area, where the Bura Buri granite (Bertoldi *et al.*, 2011; Carosi *et al.*, 2013) intrudes garnet-cordierite (after staurolite)-two mica-bearing gneiss, which can be correlated with the Everest Series (ES) of Jessup *et al.*, (2008), low-grade marble and “lumachelle” limestone of the TSS. Due to the closeness to the Tibetan border, it has not been possible to fully map the Mugu granite and to constrain its relationships with the STDS and TSS, as it was done for the Bura Buri granite (Bertoldi *et al.*, 2011; Carosi *et al.*, 2013).

A late ductile deformation event, affecting heterogeneously the whole GHS-LHS, re-folds the main foliation to upright folds often with kink-like geometry. However, a clear syn-kinematic mineral recrystallization on the axial plane-related foliation (S_{p+1}) was not developed.

In order to constrain the pressure (P) - temperature (T) - deformation (d) evolution of the HMC along the Mugu Karnali transect, five representative samples, with clear mineral growth-deformation relationships, from the different structural units (Figs 1c & 2) have been selected for a detailed study.

SELECTED SAMPLES: MICROSTRUCTURES AND MINERAL CHEMISTRY

Methods

Thin sections of selected samples, according to their structural position (D13-series as well as D09-10 and D09-52 described by Montomoli *et al.*, 2013), were prepared parallel to the XZ plane of the corresponding finite strain ellipsoid. We used these sections for analyses of minerals with a CAMECA SX100 electron microprobe (EMP) equipped with five wavelength dispersive spectrometers (WDS) at Universität Stuttgart. The EMP energy dispersive system (EDS) was used for qualitative identification of minerals. Chemical compositional maps (X-ray maps) were acquired on at least two selected areas for mica and garnet per specimen applying a stepwise movement (100

ms per step), a beam current of 60 nA for garnet and 30 nA for micas, and a subsequent computer-aided evaluation. Yttrium, Ca, Mn, Fe, Mg were chosen for garnet, whereas Ba, Na, Mg, Fe, Ti were selected for micas. The applied acceleration voltage and beam current for spot analysis were 15 kV and 30 nA for garnet, and 15 kV and 10 nA for the other minerals. This type of analysis lasted ~ 2 minutes. For analyzing Zr in rutile and Y in garnet a beam current of 100 nA and an acceleration voltage of 15 kV were selected. Synthetic and natural standards were used for the calibration of the EMP (see also Massonne, 2012, for the analytical errors). Mineral structural formulae were calculated with the software CALCMIN (Brandelik, 2009). Representative garnet compositional maps are given in Fig. 4; compositional variations of the main silicates are summarized in Fig. 5 and discussed below. Selected analyses are reported in Tables 1-4. Mineral abbreviations used in the text and figures are as follow: And = andalusite, Bt = biotite, Chl = chlorite, Crd = cordierite, Cpx = clinopyroxene, Grt = garnet, Ilm = ilmenite, Kfs = K-feldspar, Ky = kyanite, L = melt, Lws = lawsonite, Opx = orthopyroxene, Pl = plagioclase, Pg = Na-Ca white mica, Qz = quartz, Rt = rutile, Sil = sillimanite, St = staurolite, Ttn = titanite, V = H₂O fluid, Wm = K-white mica, Zo = zoisite.

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Sample D13-75 (LHS: Grt I zone)

Sample D13-75 is a phyllite from the top of the LHS (Figs 1c & 2) with the assemblage chlorite-white mica-quartz-garnet-plagioclase-biotite-ilmenite (\pm tourmaline, apatite, zircon). This rock is characterized by alternations of granoblastic and lepidoblastic layers (Figs 6a,b). The main foliation, $S_{P(LHS)}$ (Fig 6a,c) defined by micas and quartz grain shape preferred orientation (GSPO), could be classified as crenulation cleavage (Passchier & Trouw, 2005). An earlier continuous to spaced cleavage, $S_{P-1(LHS)}$ defined by micas, is preserved within the microlithons (Fig 6a,b). Large porphyroblasts of garnet (Fig. 6a), plagioclase and minor biotite occur (Fig. 6b), often with an internal foliation (S_i) defined mainly by ilmenite, quartz, plagioclase and micas. Relationships between S_i and $S_{P(LHS)}$, suggest that garnet, plagioclase and biotite could be interpreted as early-syn-

to syn-tectonic porphyroblasts with respect to the deformational event related to $S_{P(LHS)}$. Texturally late, retrograde chlorite filled garnet fractures or partially replaced biotite. Quartz in the sample shows evidence of grain boundary migration (GBM) recrystallization (Law, 2014 and references therein) such as lobate grain boundaries and pinning of micas. Moreover, deformation lamellae heterogeneously occur testifying that deformation continued after temperature peak (Passchier & Trouw, 2005). Post-kinematic white mica and biotite sporadically overgrew the main foliation.

Mineral chemistry and garnet zoning

Garnet shows a gradual decrease of Mn, balanced by an increase of Mg, from core (center: $XMn = Mn/(Mn+Mg+Ca+Fe)=0.17-0.16$, $XCa=0.19-0.18$, $XMg=0.03-0.04$, and $XFe = 0.62$) to the rim ($XMn = 0.02$, $XCa = 0.18$, $XMg = 0.08-0.07$, $XFe=0.72$; Figs 4 & 5a; Table 1) typical for a prograde growth zoning (e.g. Tracy *et al.*, 1979; Spear, 1993). The Fe/(Fe+Mg) ratio (hereafter Fe#) varies from 0.95 in the core to 0.91 for the rim.

Plagioclase (Fig. 5b; Table 2) is mainly oligoclase with $XAb (= Na/(Na+Ca+K))$ between 0.69 and 0.81. Nearly pure albite ($XAb=0.99$) has been found in some sporadic inclusions within garnet.

Biotite is quite homogeneous in composition with $XMg (=Mg/(Mg+Fe))=0.46-0.48$ and Ti a.p.f.u. (= atoms per formula unit, on 11 O basis) between 0.08-0.11 (Fig. 5c; Table 3). **White mica** is compositionally variable with Si a.p.f.u. between 3.06 and 3.16, with the highest values obtained for grains aligned along the main foliation (Fig. 5d; Table 4). **Chlorite** has XMg between 0.43 and 0.48 with the lowest values observed in garnet inclusions.

Sample D13-06 (GHS_L: Grt II zone)

Sample D13-06 is a metapsammite from the medium-upper part of the MCTZ (Grt II zone; Figs 1c & 2) with the assemblage white mica-biotite-garnet-quartz-plagioclase-ilmenite (\pm tourmaline, apatite, zircon, monazite and xenotime). The rock shows an anastomosing disjunctive mylonitic

foliation (Passchier & Trouw, 2005) defined by white mica, biotite and ilmenite and by quartz/feldspar GSPO (Fig. 6c). Garnet is present as a skeletal porphyroblast, embayed in a quartz matrix (Fig. 6c), and it is wrapped by the mylonitic foliation. Sporadic S_i , defined by quartz iso-orientation, is discordant to concordant with the external one, suggesting that garnet could be an intertectonic to early-syntectonic porphyroblast (Passchier & Trouw, 2005). Late chlorite is present (in low modal amount) partially replacing biotite or garnet edges (Fig. 6c). Well-developed kinematic indicators such as S-C fabric and asymmetric strain shadows (Fig. 6c) point to a general top-to-the SW sense of shear (Fig. 6a), in agreement with field observations. Quartz shows evidences of GBM dynamic recrystallization.

266

267 *Mineral chemistry and garnet zoning*

Garnet X-ray maps show evidence for diffusionally modified growth domains (Fig. 4) with hardly discernable zoning and a discontinuous enrichment of Mn towards the outermost rims ($XMn=0.07-0.06$; $XCa=0.13-0.12$; $XMg=0.64$; $Fe\#=0.93$). This feature points to late resorption of garnet (Kohn & Spear, 2008; Spear, 2009). XAb in plagioclase ranges between 0.77 and 0.90 with the lowest values in inclusions in garnet (Fig. 5b; Table 2). Biotite shows XMg between 0.35 and 0.39 and Ti a.p.f.u. between 0.05 and 0.17, with the lowest values obtained from biotite inclusions in garnet (Fig. 5c; Table 3). The contents of Si a.p.f.u. in white mica vary between 3.09 and 3.25 (Fig. 5d; Table 4). The late chlorite has XMg between 0.39 and 0.41.

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277 **Sample D09-10 (GHS_L: St + Bt ± Ky zone)**

Sample D09-10 is a paragneiss from the GHS_L (see also Montomoli *et al.*, 2013), where staurolite coexists with biotite (± kyanite) (Figs 1c & 2). The assemblage (Fig. 6d) is characterized by white mica-biotite-garnet-staurolite-kyanite-plagioclase-quartz (± tourmaline, Ti-oxides, graphite, apatite, zircon, monazite and xenotime), where the micas define the main foliation, $S_{P(GHS)}$, classified as an

anastomosing disjunctive schistosity (Passchier & Trouw, 2005). Moreover, relicts of an older continuous to spaced schistosity, $S_{P-1(GHS)}$, defined by oriented white mica and biotite, were sporadically detected.

Garnet porphyroblasts (Fig. 6d) show an inner/intermediate domain, where inclusions (often classified as growth inclusions *sensu* Passchier & Trouw, 2005) of ilmenite, quartz, chlorite, white mica, biotite, graphite, \pm Na-Ca white mica, \pm rutile, \pm xenotime, \pm monazite are abundant, and an inclusion-poor rim. Occasionally, S_i in garnet (Fig. 6d) is discordant to the external foliation. Staurolite contains inclusions of quartz, white mica, biotite, plagioclase, ilmenite/rutile, graphite, garnet (Fig. 6f), \pm tourmaline, defining an S_i , that is quite often curved and in continuity (Fig. 6e) with the external main foliation ($S_{P(GHS)}$). Kyanite is aligned along the main foliation $S_{P(GHS)}$, sometimes kinked, and partially replaced by white mica (Fig. 6d). Interestingly, rutile surrounded by ilmenite was found in the matrix and enclosed in staurolite. Following the aforementioned textures, garnet is interpreted as inter- to early- syn-tectonic, kyanite as early-syn-tectonic, and staurolite as early-syn- to syn-tectonic porphyroblasts (Passchier & Trouw, 2005). Late retrograde chlorite partially replaced garnet and biotite. Quartz shows evidence of the GBM dynamic recrystallization regime. Annealed grains with straight triple points are also sometimes present. Feldspar shows evidences of ductile deformation by undulose extinction and deformation twins.

Mineral chemistry and garnet zoning

Garnet presents clear evidence of prograde growth zoning (Figs 4 & 5a; Table 1) by the systematic decrease of Mn and Ca, balanced by increase of Mg and Fe from core ($XMn=0.008-0.014$, $XCa=0.004-0.007$, $XMg=0.35-0.32$, $XFe=0.68-0.65$, $Fe\#=0.95-0.94$) to the inner rim ($XMn=0.008-0.004$, $XCa=0.71-0.04$, $XMg=0.12-0.11$, $XFe=0.84-0.81$, $Fe\#=0.85-0.84$). A thin outermost rim (Fig. 4) with Mn (XMn up to 0.014) and $Fe\#$ ($=0.86-0.88$) enrichment suggests minor garnet resorption and re-equilibration. Plagioclase (Table 2) shows generally higher XAb when included in garnet ($XAb=0.60-0.90$, Fig. 5b) compared to matrix grains ($XAb=0.87-0.91$). Biotite inclusions in

garnet (Table 3) show lower Ti a.p.f.u. (0.05-0.08) and XMg (0.39-0.50) with respect to biotite defining the main foliation (Ti a.p.f.u.=0.08-0.10, XMg=0.45-0.59). White mica is characterized by Si a.p.f.u. between 3.21 and 3.08, with the lowest values analyzed in mica enclosed in garnet (Table 4). Na-Ca white mica, observed only in garnet, is margarite-rich with Na/(Na+Ca) of 0.20. XMg of staurolite is between 0.18 and 0.16, with the lowest values obtained from the rims.

313

Sample D09-52 (GHS_U: Als + Wm zone)

Sample D09-52 is a mylonitic paragneiss from the Mangri Shear Zone (see also Montomoli *et al.*, 2013), defining the base of the GHS_U (Figs 1c & 2). The observed assemblage (Fig. 7a) is biotite-garnet-white mica-sillimanite-quartz-plagioclase (\pm tourmaline, Ti-oxides, apatite, monazite, zircon and xenotime). The main foliation, S_{P(GHS)}, is an anastomosing disjunctive mylonitic schistosity (Passchier & Trouw, 2005) defined by biotite, sillimanite, white mica and ilmenite (Fig. 7a). This sillimanite-bearing mylonitic foliation (Fig. 7a) wraps around garnet porphyroclasts (Fig. 7a), which sometimes show an S_i, traced by quartz, plagioclase, mica and rutile, being discordant to the external one (*i.e.* intertectonic garnet). In addition, this foliation envelops large kinked white mica porphyroclasts (Fig. 7b), which can also display an S_i traced by quartz, biotite and rutile. Late chlorite partially replaces garnet edges and biotite. Quartz shows evidence of a dynamic recrystallization regime (Montomoli *et al.*, 2013), such as chessboard extinction and lobate grain boundaries (GBM_{II}, Law, 2014). Kinematic indicators, such as S-C fabric and mica fishes, point to a top-to-the W-SW sense of shear (Fig. 7a,b).

328

Mineral chemistry and garnet zoning

Garnet X-ray maps show a zoning with a strong decrease of Ca, coupled with a slight decrease of Mn and a slight increase of Mg from core (XMn=0.07–0.05, XCa=0.10–0.07, XMg=0.12–0.10, XFe=, Fe#=0.88–0.87) to inner rim (XMn=0.03–0.02, XCa=0.05–0.03, XMg=0.15–0.09, Fe#=0.85–0.84). A clear discernable outermost rim (Fig. 4; Table 1) with high Mn (XMn up to

0.11) and Fe# (=0.91) suggests garnet resorption via retrograde net-transfer reactions (Kohn & Spear, 2000). Plagioclase is characterized by XAb of 0.71-0.85 (Table 2), with the lowest values found in plagioclase within garnet inclusions (Fig. 5b). Matrix biotite shows XMg of 0.34-0.38 and Ti a.p.f.u. between 0.15 and 0.18. Biotite enclosed in garnet is characterized by XMg of 0.52-0.45 and Ti a.p.f.u. between 0.09 and 0.15 (Fig. 5c; Table 3). White mica (Fig. 5d) shows Si a.p.f.u. in the range of 3.25-3.10, with the highest values analyzed in large mica fish (Table 4; see also Montomoli *et al.*, 2013).

Sample D13-28 (GHS_U: Als + Kfs zone)

Sample D13-28 is from the mesosome of sheared migmatites forming the Tiyar Shear Zone (Figs 1c & 2d). This sample contains K-feldspar-garnet-aluminosilicate-plagioclase-quartz-biotite-rutile/ilmenite ±white mica (+melt) with apatite, monazite and zircon as accessories. A spaced anastomosing mylonitic schistosity, defined by biotite and sillimanite (Fig 7c-f), wraps around garnet and K-feldspar porphyroclasts (Fig 7c-f). Garnet contains K-feldspar inclusions in the outermost domain, testifying that at least a part of the garnet is peritectic in origin, since both phases coexist as products of mica-consuming melt-forming reactions (*e.g.* Groppo *et al.*, 2012 and references therein). The margin of garnet is replaced by sillimanite+biotite (Fig. 7f). Kyanite is deformed (Figs 7d,e), sometimes boudinaged with sillimanite filling the necking. Rutile occurs enclosed in garnet and K-feldspar and in the matrix, where it is often partially replaced by ilmenite. These microstructural observations (Figs 7c-f) suggest that the “peak” pre-mylonitic assemblage (hereafter M1) was K-feldspar-garnet-kyanite-plagioclase-quartz-biotite-rutile (+melt), whereas the “post peak”, syn-mylonitic assemblage (hereafter M2) is K-feldspar-garnet-sillimanite-plagioclase-quartz-biotite-ilmenite ±white mica/melt. Microstructures suggest a HT deformation regime supported by quartz, forming strain-free ribbons (Figs 7c,d), and a uniform feldspar-quartz recrystallized matrix with interlobate grain-boundaries (Figs 7c,d). K-feldspar (Fig. 7c) shows evidences of ductile dynamic recrystallization such as a core

and mantle structure, myrmekite and perthitic exsolution. Garnet ellipsoid shape (Fig. 7f), suggesting its possible ductile behavior, is also compatible with the invoked HT deformation regime (Passchier & Trouw, 2005). Late white mica forms large flakes (Fig. 7c), crosscutting the mylonitic foliation, or tiny grains oriented along this foliation. Kinematic indicators such as asymmetric porphyroclasts (Fig. 7c), asymmetric myrmekite (Fig. 7c), and kyanite fishes (Fig. 7d) point to a top-to-the W-SW sense of shear.

Mineral chemistry and garnet zoning

Garnet shows a zoning especially in Ca (Figs 4 & 5a; Table 1). The core is richer in Ca and poorer in Mg ($X_{Ca}=0.19-0.12$; $X_{Fe}=0.71-0.67$; $X_{Mn}=0.06-0.04$; $Fe\#=0.87-0.86$) compared to the inner rim ($X_{Ca}=0.11-0.05$; $X_{Fe}=0.77-0.74$; $X_{Mn}=0.06-0.04$; $Fe\#=0.91-0.87$). An increase of X_{Mn} ($=0.08-0.11$), as well as of $Fe\#$ ($=0.93-0.91$), at the outermost rim domain points to garnet resorption (Kohn & Spear, 2000). However, as described above, the almost constant X_{Mn} as well as the increase of $Fe\#$ from core towards the rim strongly suggest that the original zoning has been modified by diffusion (e.g. Spear, 1993; Groppo *et al.*, Indares *et al.*). Two types of feldspars occur in the rock (Fig. 5b). Plagioclase shows X_{Ab} between 0.65 and 0.82, with the lowest values found in plagioclase inclusions in garnet (Table 2). Sporadically, almost pure albite ($X_{Ab} = 0.95-0.96$) is found at the edge of matrix plagioclase. K-feldspar is characterized by X_{Or} ($=K/(K+Na+Ca)$) in the range of 0.86-0.92. Biotite is chemically heterogeneous (Fig. 5c; Table 3). Matrix biotite has Ti a.p.f.u. values between 0.11 and 0.27 with X_{Mg} of 0.36-0.39. Biotite inclusions in the garnet rim show the highest X_{Mg} (0.53-0.54) with Ti a.p.f.u. = 0.23, whereas late biotite texturally associated with sillimanite, both replacing garnet, is characterized by the lowest Ti a.p.f.u. (0.06-0.07) and X_{Mg} of 0.36-0.37. The late white mica is muscovite (Table 4) with Si a.p.f.u. between 3.03 and 3.10 (Fig. 5d).

ESTIMATION OF PRESSURE (P) – TEMPERATURE (T)

386 **Methods**

387 The *P-T* histories of selected samples were constrained by modelling using pseudosections.

388 Moreover, where possible, trace-element based thermobarometry was applied such as the Zr-in-
389 rutile thermometer (calibration by Tomkins *et al.*, 2007) and the Y-in-garnet thermometer (Pyle &
390 Spear, 2000).

391 *P-T* pseudosections were constructed with the software PERPLE_X (Connolly, 2005, August 2011
392 version, downloaded from the web site <http://www.perplex.ethz.ch/>). The internally consistent
393 thermodynamic database for minerals and water (CORK model, Holland & Powell, 1991) given by
394 Holland & Powell (1998, with 2002 updates) was used. The following solid-solution (a-X)
395 models, compatible with this data set and based on formulations of Holland & Powell (1996,
396 1998) and Powell & Holland (1999), were chosen: GlTsTsPg for amphibole, T for talc, Ctd(HP)
397 for chloritoid, TiBio(HP) for biotite, Chl(HP) for chlorite, hCrd for cordierite, Gt(HP) for garnet,
398 Opx(HP) for orthopyroxene, Omph(HP) for clinopyroxene, IlGkPy for ilmenite (ideal ilmenite-
399 geikielite-pyrophanite solid solution), Pheng(HP) for potassic white mica (with a maximum
400 paragonite content of 50% mol), St(HP) for staurolite. The models used for feldspars (plagioclase
401 and K-feldspar) and Na-Ca rich mica were reported by Massonne (2012 and references therein).
402 Moreover, for calculating melting relationships within the GHS_U, the model melt(HP) for
403 haplogranitic melt (White *et al.*, 2001) was selected.




404 Calculations were performed in the MnO-Na₂O-CaO-K₂O-FeO-MgO-Al₂O₃-SiO₂-H₂O-TiO₂ model
405 system (MnNCKFMASHT). No ferric iron (or O₂) was considered because: i) magnetite is absent
406 in the selected samples (White *et al.*, 2000); ii) the amount of ferric iron in the minerals is very low
407 and iii) rutile+ilmenite (\pm graphite) indicate low oxidation conditions (White & Groppo, 2000; Diener &
408 Powell, 2000). Titanium was included to determine the *P-T* relations of Ti-rich
409 phases. However it must be stressed that the presence of ferric iron would affect their *P-T* relations.
410 The calculated pseudosections were contoured by molar contents of phase components, (e.g. pyrope

411 component in garnet) and modal phase amounts. Each raw graph was manually smoothed as shown
 412 by Connolly (2005).

413

414 ***Bulk rock composition***

415 The bulk-rock compositions of five selected samples (see above) were determined by X-ray
 416 fluorescence (XRF) analysis on ground thin sections chips, [following the analytical procedure](#)
 417 [reported in Massonne \(2014\)](#). These compositions [were simplified](#) in order to fit the ten-component
 418 model system: *i*) CaO was reduced applying a correction for phosphorus assumed to be exclusively
 419 [in apatite](#); *ii*) various amounts of H₂O were considered in the pseudosection calculations as outlined
 420 below.

421 In all calculations for LHS and GHS_L rocks [H₂O saturation was permitted in the whole *P-T* range](#)
 422 [considered](#). Sample D09-52 (GHS_U) [was assumed to be](#) H₂O saturated after cooling below the
 423 solidus (*e.g.* Massonne, 2014). As the high grade “peak” assemblage M1 (see above) was preserved
 424 in sample D13-28 and showed only minor retrogression, this rock is compatible with a scenario
 425 where melt, produced during prograde and peak metamorphism, was partially lost. Therefore, the
 426 amount of H₂O was estimated following the method of Hasalová *et al.* (2008) (see also Tajčmanová
 427 *et al.*, 2011). Thus, T-XH₂O pseudosections at different constant pressure (1.0, 0.80, 0.70, 0.55
 428 GPa) were constructed. The “best fit” water amount *sensu* Hasalová *et al.* (2008) was chosen for
 429 calculating the  pseudosection for sample D13-28 ([see Fig. S6](#)). This pseudosection is, however,
 430 valid only for “near peak conditions” to an early retrograde stage (Groppo *et al.*,  2012;
 431 Hasalová *et al.*, .

432 Pseudosection modeling requires the crucial identification of the “true” reactive equilibrium volume
 433 (effective bulk composition, EBC, Stüwe, 1997), which could change during the metamorphic
 434 evolution, for example, by sequestering elements such as Mn in the interior of garnet and
 435 subsequent shielding by outer garnet domains. Various methods have been [proposed](#) (*e.g.* Stüwe,
 436 1997; Evans, 2004) to account for this effect. In our study, garnet with strong growth zoning is

present (see Fig. 4), thus the method proposed by Evans (2004) and Gaides *et al.* (2006) (see also Groppo *et al.*, 2009) to samples D13-75 and D09-10 was applied. In this method garnet considered to be concentrically zoned with different (at least two) shells. A Rayleigh fractionation model for the garnet zoning is assumed, where Mn content is a function of the modal amount of garnet and a curvilinear relationship between Mn and Fe, Mg, Ca contents is present (see Evans, 2004 and references therein). Mineral mode vs composition curves for garnet are build up and after integration, it is possible to calculate the composition of a garnet shell that must be subtracted from the whole rock compositions in order to obtain the new EBC. This approach to sample D13-75 with <5 vol.% of garnet results in a minor effect (see also Groppo *et al.*, 2009; Massonne, 2014), whereas a considerable effect on D09-10, with high modal amount (~ 10 vol.%) and strongly zoned garnet, was noted. In fact, relevant mineral-in curves (except garnet-in) are only slightly shifted, but the *P-T* positions of garnet compositional isopleths are significantly displaced (see below and compares Fig. S3 with Fig. S4).

***P-T* RESULTS AND PATHS**

P-T results obtained with pseudosection modeling are presented below. For each sample only relevant graphs/isopleths are shown. The full sets of contoured graphs are reported in the appendix (Figs S1-S7).

Sample D13-75 (LHS: Grt I zone)

Pseudosection topology

The *P-T* pseudosection for sample D13-75 (Fig. 8a) was calculated for the *P-T* range of 0.1–1.1 GPa and 400–650°C. Quartz is always present in the considered *P-T* range. Garnet appears somewhat below 500°C at < 0.55 GPa. Staurolite occurs in the MT-HT range of the pseudosection, where, at low pressure, also cordierite appears. In the HP-LT range plagioclase is absent, and clinopyroxene (< 2 vol.%) occurs at < 475°C (Fig. 8a).

463

464 *Metamorphic conditions and P-T-D path*

465 The **observed assemblage** of sample D13-75 (see above) is represented (Fig. 8a) in the field Chl-
 466 Wm-Pl-Ilm-Grt-Bt-Qz (+V), which appears **between 480-580°C and 0.10-0.80 GPa**. This field is
 467 limited by the **staurolite-in** curve (Figs 8a,b) towards high temperatures. **Rutile-in** and **Ca-Na white**
 468 **mica-in** curves define the upper pressure limit.

469 The isopleths for the garnet core ($X_{Ca} \sim 0.19-0.18$, $X_{Mg} \sim 0.03$, $X_{Fe} = 0.62$) intersect at $\sim 525^\circ\text{C}$ and
 470 0.55 GPa and, thus, nearly 25°C above the **garnet-in** curve (Fig. 8b), in the Chl-Wm-Pl-Ilm-Grt-Bt-
 471 Qz field (Fig. 8a) compatible with inclusions of biotite-plagioclase-quartz-ilmenite-chlorite-white
 472 mica in this core. The isopleths for the garnet rim ($X_{Ca} \sim 0.18$; $X_{Mg} \sim 0.07$, $X_{Fe} = 0.72$) intersect at
 473 about 560°C and 0.75 GPa (Fig. 8b). This intersection is compatible with Si contents of potassic
 474 white mica (3.12–3.15 a.p.f.u.) and $X_{Mg} = 0.46-0.45$ and 0.48-0.46 of chlorite and biotite (Fig. 8b),
 475 respectively, which grew along $S_{P(LHS)}$ (Fig. 6c; Table 1). **In summary**, LHS sample D13-75 records
 476 a **P-T** path (Fig. 8b) characterized by burial and heating. Moreover, since no staurolite is present in
 477 the sample, decompression of the LHS sample D13-75 occurred without appreciable heating. In this
 478 way, a nearly “hairpin type” **P-T** path is the most probable one experienced by the LHS rocks in the
 479 Mugu Karnali area.

480

481 **Sample D13-06 (GHS_L: Grt II zone)**482 *Pseudosection topology*

483 Sample D13-06 was modeled for the **P-T** range of 0.2–1.2 GPa and 400–700°C (Fig. 8c). Quartz is
 484 present in all fields, whereas clinopyroxene (**< 5.5 vol%**) and titanite appear only at LT-HP
 485 conditions of the pseudosection. Garnet occurs at almost the entire P-T conditions except in the LT-
 486 LP and LP-HT portions of the pseudosection (Fig. 8c).

487

488 *Metamorphic conditions and P-T-D path*

The isopleths of garnet with the highest XMg=0.69 (XC_a=0.15, XFe=0.75, XMn=0.03) intersect in the *P-T* range of ~ 1.0-1.2 GPa and 600°C (Fig. 8d) in the Wm-Pl-Ilm-Grt-Pg-Bt-Qz-V field, compatible with the observed mineral assemblage (see above), although the predicted Na-Ca white mica was not found. Several reasons such as: (i) paragonitic mica was completely exhausted during retrogression; (ii) this mica occurs only in submicroscopic interlayers in potassic white mica (*e.g.* Willner *et al.*, 2009); or (iii) possible flaws in mica solution models (*e.g.* Groppo *et al.*, 2009) could be responsible for that. However, the *P-T* conditions of ~ 1.0-1.2 GPa and 600°C are in agreement with the highest Si content in white mica (3.25 a.p.f.u.). An intersection of isopleths for the garnet outer rim (XMg~0.06, XC_a=0.13-0.12, XFe~0.17, XMn~0.07) occurs at *P-T* conditions of ~ 0.8 GPa and 570°C, along the retrograde path, where garnet is consumed and re-equilibrated. Further decompression and cooling is suggested by the lowest Si content in white mica (3.10-3.09 a.p.f.u.) and by XMg in biotite (0.37-0.35). According to the pseudosection, the late chlorite after garnet formed below 520°C. Thus, the D13-06 sample records only a small part of the experienced *P-T* path (Fig. 8d).

Sample D09-10 (GHS_L: St + Bt ± Ky zone)

Pseudosection topology

The *P-T* pseudosection for sample D09-10 was calculated for the range of 0.3–1.3 GPa and 400–700°C (Fig. 9a). The garnet-in curve is located in the pressure range of 0.3–0.7 GPa at ~ 520°C (Fig. 9a) and, thus ~ 15-20°C above the biotite-in curve (field n°13 in Fig. 9a). Chlorite is completely consumed around 580°C in almost the entire pressure range (Fig. 9a). Aluminosilicate (kyanite or sillimanite) occurs in the HT range of the pseudosection (Fig. 9a). In the LT-HP corner of the pseudosection lawsonite appears. Staurolite occurs in a narrow field from ~ 535°C (at 0.30 GPa) up to 650-670°C (at 0.75–0.85 GPa).

Metamorphic conditions and P-T-D path

515 The observed mineral assemblage (see above) is restricted to a small field at 0.75–0.85 GPa
 516 and 640–660°C (labeled as Grt-Wm-Bt-St-Ky-Qz-Pl-Ilm in Fig. 9a). This field is also present, but
 517 somewhat shifted to slightly higher temperatures (660–680°C) in the garnet core fractionated bulk
 518 composition (Figs 9b & S4). A P - T path (Fig. 9a) is reconstructed using mineral associations and
 519 their compositions. According to compositional isopleths ($X_{Mg}=0.03$, $X_{Ca}=0.18$, $X_{Fe}=0.66$,
 520 $X_{Mn}=0.13-0.12$), the garnet core formed at $\sim 520^\circ\text{C}$ and 0.60 GPa, very close to the garnet-in curve
 521 (Fig. 9b). This temperature is further supported (Fig. 9b) by the applied garnet-xenotime
 522 thermometry. This thermometry is applicable since xenotime was observed in the garnet core,
 523 buffering its YAG content (Y in garnet core = 1800–900 ppm). Moreover, these P - T values are
 524 compatible with the presence of chlorite-biotite-ilmenite and Na-Ca white mica in the garnet core in
 525 agreement to the calculated field in the pseudosection. Garnet mantle compositional isopleths
 526 ($X_{Mg}=0.12-0.11$, $X_{Ca}=0.06-0.05$, $X_{Fe}=0.81$, $X_{Mn}=0.004-0.005$) do not perfectly intersect, but
 527 suggest an equilibration of this garnet domain around 580–600°C and 1.1 GPa. This high-pressure
 528 stage is compatible with highest Si content in white mica (3.21 a.p.f.u.) and would explain the rutile
 529 relicts observed in the rock. Finally, the garnet outermost rim ($X_{Mg}=0.15-0.14$, $X_{Ca}=0.05-0.04$,
 530 $X_{Fe}=0.80-0.81$, $X_{Mn}=0.008-0.01$), joined with the compositions (Table 4) of white mica (3.09–
 531 3.11 a.p.f.u.) and biotite ($X_{Mg}=0.45-0.50$) defining $S_{(PGHS)}$, and staurolite ($X_{Mg}=0.18-0.16$)
 532 equilibrated at $\sim 650-670^\circ\text{C}$ and 0.80–0.85 GPa (Fig. 9b). These conditions are compatible with the
 533 narrow P - T range of the observed mineral assemblage (Grt-Wm-Bt-St-Ky-Qz-Pl-Ilm in Fig. 9a).
 534 In summary, sample D09-10 from the GHS_L has experienced a “clockwise type” P - T path (Fig. 9b)
 535 with peak pressure (P_{\max}) conditions of 1.1 GPa at 580–600°C reached before the maximum
 536 temperature (T_{\max} , see also Rolfo et al., 2015) of 650–670°C (0.80–0.85 GPa) at which the
 537 Barrovian minerals kyanite and staurolite are predicted to have been grown. Further decompression
 538 accompanied by cooling is inferred based on the lack of sillimanite, white mica formed after
 539 kyanite, and the formation of retrograde chlorite.

540

Sample D09-52 (GHS_U: Als + Wm zone)

Pseudosection topology

The *P-T* pseudosection for sample D09-52 (Fig. 9c) was calculated for the range of 0.3–1.3 GPa and 575–800°C. Quartz is stable in the whole *P-T* pseudosection as garnet except at very LP (< 0.45 GPa) and MT (< 680 °C). Biotite is absent at LP-HT conditions (above field n°16 in Fig. 9c) due to the formation of cordierite (+K-feldspar). White mica is limited towards high temperature by partial melting reactions leading to the formation of K-feldspar + aluminosilicate (e.g. fields 17 & 25 in Fig. 9c). Melt is predicted to appear already at MT and HP conditions (600–620°C and 1.2–1.3 GPa). It should be kept in mind that these melting conditions are related to minimum melting, assuming a wet-solidus environment (*i.e.* the rock contains free H₂O). Lower H₂O contents can shift the solidus towards higher T (Massonne, 2014; Weinberg & Hasalová, 2015). At temperatures slightly exceeding the wet-solidus, very little melt will be produced and is, thus, difficult to detect (White *et al.*, 2001). Taking into account these limitations (see also Massonne, 2014) it is possible to derive a path for this sample (Fig. 9d).

Metamorphic conditions and P-T-D path

Garnet rim isopleths (XMg=0.15-0.12, XCa=0.05-0.03, XFe=0.79–0.78, XMn=0.02-0.12), despite the low intersection angle (*i.e.* larger uncertainties), define *P-T* conditions of ~ 0.7–0.8 GPa and 690–710°C compatible with the preserved assemblage (Sil-Grt-Wm-Bt-Pl-Qz-Ilm), which was calculated to coexist with few vol.% melt. These conditions are also compatible with the chemistry of syn-kinematic white mica (Si a.p.f.u.=3.12–3.10) and biotite (XMg=0.47–0.55). A higher *P*, pre-mylonitic, stage is suggested by the composition of the cores of large white mica fishes. This HP stage is tentatively placed at around 1.2 GPa and 630–650°C using the chemistry of cores of white mica fishes (XMg=0.48–0.52 and Si a.p.f.u. = 3.25) and XCa (0.10) and XMg (0.10-0.09) in some garnet cores.

Hence, sample D09-52 experienced a clockwise *P-T* path from HP conditions of ~ 1.2 GPa and 630–650°C up to MP-HT conditions of 0.7–0.8 GPa and 690–720 °C, at possible supra-solidus conditions (Fig. 9d). The lack of staurolite and K-feldspar indicates further decompression accompanied by cooling. This *P-T* path is compatible with syn-kinematic growth of sillimanite along the mylonitic foliation $S_{P(GHS)}$ and rutile relicts observed within garnet, in the large white mica porphyroclasts and in the matrix ilmenite. Moreover, this path could also account for kyanite relicts observed in other samples from the same outcrop.

Sample D13-28 (GHS_U: Als + Kfs zone)

Pseudosection topology

D13-28 has been modeled using a *P-T* pseudosection for 0.3–1.3 GPa and 650–900°C (Fig. 10a). The H₂O in the calculation was estimated to be 0.20 wt% (see “bulk rock composition” section), but this amount could be too low (e.g. Iaccarino *et al.*, Braga & Massonne), as lower water contents do not stabilize white mica during cooling. However, higher H₂O contents destabilize aluminosilicate (Fig. S6). Moreover, the estimated 0.2 wt% H₂O is well within the range of estimates for high-grade migmatites (Hasalová *et al.*, 2008; Groppo *et al.*, 2010, 2012; Tajčmanová *et al.*, 2011). Quartz, plagioclase and K-feldspar are always present in the considered *P-T* space, and also garnet, except in the HT-LP range, where firstly cordierite and then orthopyroxene appear with rising temperature. Biotite is completely consumed at $\sim 800^\circ\text{C}$ (Figs 10a,b). Kyanite occurs above 725°C and 0.9 GPa in the pseudosection. White mica occupies the LT-HP side of the graph (650–800°C, 0.6–1.3 GPa). Melt appears around 700–725°C as a function of P (Figs 10a,b). Rutile occurs above 0.8–0.9 GPa, whereas ilmenite is present below these pressures (Figs 10a,b).

Metamorphic conditions and P-T-D path

591 The peak conditions of around 1.0–1.1 GPa and ~ 740 – 775°C (Fig. 10a) are constrained by the M1
 592 assemblage (see above) Grt-Ky-Kfs-Pl-Qz-Bt-Rt-L which is typical for the HP granulite facies (e.g.
 593 Indares *et al.*, 2008; Groppo *et al.*, 2010; 2012). The P - T field of this assemblage field is delimited
 594 towards lower T and P by the disappearance of kyanite, and towards higher T by the Bt-out curve
 595 (Figs 10a,b). These HT conditions (~ 700 up to 750°C) are further supported by Zr-in-rutile
 596 thermometry (Zr = 540–800 ppm) applying the Tomkins *et al.* (2007) calibration (Fig. 10b) on
 597 pristine rutile lacking ilmenite retrogression and/or zircon exsolution (see Fig. S8).
 598 The M2 paragenesis (Grt-Sil-Kfs-Pl-Qz-Bt-Ilm \pm Wm/melt) appears below 0.85 GPa. At
 599 temperatures above 700 – 725°C melt occurs, whereas at lower temperature white mica joins the
 600 assemblage. Using such constraints, sample D13-28 records a segment of a “clockwise” P - T path
 601 characterized by decompression and cooling (Fig. 10b) from conditions of $\sim 750^\circ\text{C}$, ≥ 1.0 GPa to
 602 0.80 – 0.70 GPa and $\sim 700^\circ\text{C}$. In the proposed P - T segment garnet and melt are consumed via back-
 603 reactions such as Grt+Kfs+L = Sil+Bt (+Wm) (e.g. Spear *et al.*, 1999; Groppo *et al.*, 2012). This P -
 604 T path (Fig. 10b) is compatible with compositional isopleths of biotite XMg (0.54–0.40) and garnet
 605 (XFe = 0.69–0.71 for the inner rim, XFe = 0.76 for the outer rim), as well as the late white mica
 606 chemistry. However, in the M1 field of the calculated pseudosection, the calcium isopleths for
 607 garnet do not exactly match the derived P - T conditions. Intersections of rim isopleths (XC_a>0.05)
 608 suggest higher pressure conditions (1.20–1.40 GPa) above the M1 field. This is a frequent
 609 observation in HP migmatites (e.g. Indares *et al.*, 2008) also in the Himalaya (Groppo *et al.*, 2010,
 610 2012) and it is probably related to the presence of another Ca-bearing phase in the system, such as
 611 apatite (Indares *et al.*, 2008; Groppo *et al.*, 2012) which in D13-28 is present as large grains and in
 612 appreciable modal amounts, but not modeled in the pseudosection. Indares *et al.* (2008)
 613 hypothesized that the incorporation of Ca in the melt at high pressures, is not favored and garnet
 614 would incorporate Ca released during apatite dissolution. Modal changes of apatite could result in
 615 the depletion or enrichment of the bulk Ca and so zoning of XC_a in garnet from anatectic apatite-
 616 bearing pelitic systems may not always be a reliable indicator of the P - T (Indares *et al.*, 2008;

Groppo *et al.*, 2012). For these reasons, it is stressed that the obtained “peak” *P-T* conditions are believed as minimum one (*e.g.* Guilmette *et al.*, 2011; Groppo *et al.*, 2010; 2012). Despite these limitations, the proposed *P-T* path could explain textural key observations, such as: (i) the peritectic origin of garnet, suggested by K-feldspar inclusions; (ii) syn-kinematic replacement of kyanite by sillimanite; (iii) replacement of garnet edges by sillimanite+biotite; (iv) replacement of rutile by ilmenite coronae in the matrix; (v) the late growth of white mica flakes (*e.g.* Brown, 2002). Moreover, these observations support the shearing activity of the TSZ at high temperature conditions, as also suggested by quartz and feldspar microstructures (see above).

625

626 DISCUSSION

627 *Structural architecture*

628 The Himalayan portion investigated in this work is characterized by a structural regional
629 architecture that could be approximated to a NE-E dipping homoclinal slab (Fig. 2). Despite this
630 apparent regional structural simplicity, a protracted deformational history has been highlighted.
631 Several high-strain zones, at different structural positions, with non-coaxial deformation, have been
632 developed (Figs 1c, 2). The lowest one, mapped as the MCTZ, juxtaposed middle- to high-grade
633 GHS rocks structurally above the medium- to low- grade LHS.

634 Within the GHS, two high-grade shear zones have been mapped (Figs 1c, 2). The lower one, the
635 MSZ described by Montomoli *et al.* (2013), juxtaposed the sillimanite-bearing GHS_U on the GHS_L
636 in the time span of *c.* 25–18 Ma (Montomoli *et al.*, 2013).

637 The structurally upper TSZ is located at a higher structural level within the GHS_U and coincides
638 with the prograde white mica disappearance and aluminosilicate + K-feldspar + melt appearance.
639 The TSZ hanging-wall is made of a migmatitic complex (stromatolites and minor diatexites) and by
640 the Mugu granite (Fig. 1c). No geochronological data are available for the TSZ, but at least from
641 the structural point of view, the TSZ could be compared with the Kalopani Shear Zone in the

nearby Annapurna area (Vannay & Hodges, 1996; Carosi *et al.*, 2014, 2016) or with the “Thrust 3” of He *et al.* (2015).

Barrovian minerals show complex relationships with the deformation and time of crystallization. For instance, within the LHS (sample D13-75) garnet is early-syn- to syn-kinematic with respect to the main foliation ($S_{P(LHS)}$), and, going progressively structurally upward in the GHS_L , garnet (in Grt II zone), staurolite and potentially kyanite appear as early-syn to syn-kinematic minerals with respect to the development of $S_{P(GHS)}$ (see also Yakymchuk & Godin, 2012). In the GHS_U garnet and kyanite (\pm K-feldspar) are pre-kinematic, whereas sillimanite is syn-kinematic with respect to the development $S_{P(GHS)}$. These microstructural observations support a diachronous mineral growth and rock equilibration/deformation across the Mugu Karnali transect. This picture, as proposed here, is different from that one suggested by Stephenson *et al.* (2000). These authors interpreted staurolite and kyanite mainly as early minerals, occurring during the first stages of metamorphism (M1) and predating the development of $S_{P(GHS)}$, and K-feldspar as a late mineral related to the subsequent stage (M2).

Finally it is worthy of note that when the tectonic units experienced a late folding event followed by brittle tectonics when they reached upper structural levels.



Metamorphism and P-T path

Pseudosections were used to constrain the P - T history of the metamorphic core of the Mugu Karnali transect (Fig. 11). The present estimates are compatible, within the methodological errors, with THERMOCALC average P - T results obtained on a larger sample dataset, including samples investigated in the present contribution, reported in Iaccarino (2015). Moreover, for samples D09-10 and D09-52, the present findings are also compatible with P - T estimates based on “classical geothermobarometry” reported in Montomoli *et al.* (2013). Results obtained in the present contribution could be compared with THERMOCALC average P - T estimates of Yakymchuk & Godin (2012) for a nearby structural profile, where very similar P - T conditions were obtained

668 especially for the GHS_L. Lower P - T conditions are reported by these authors for the aluminosilicate
 669 + K-feldspar zone within the GHS_U, although Yakymchuk & Godin (2012) argued that their results
 670 are better interpreted as partial re-equilibration somewhere along a decompression path. This would
 671 be compatible with our findings.

672 Different P - T paths were inferred from the studied samples (Fig. 11) and the following results could
 673 be traced and compared with other structural transects along the belt:

674 (i) The LHS (sample D13-75) is characterized by a “hairpin type” P - T path (with T_{\max} being nearly
 675 coincident with peak P_{\max}), as already noted for other portions of the Himalaya (e.g. Kohn, 2014
 676 and references therein). This P - T path type seems to be common for MCTZ footwall rocks (e.g.
 677 Kohn *et al.*, 2001; Groppo *et al.*, 2009; Rolfo *et al.*, 2015).

678 (ii) GHS samples have likely experienced a P - T path with a steep dP/dT before reaching P_{\max} ,
 679 followed by decompression associated with heating from P_{\max} up to T_{\max} (e.g. Groppo *et al.*, 2009,
 680 2010, 2012; Rolfo *et al.*, 2015) and further decompression and cooling.

681 (iii) GHS_U samples have experienced HP conditions (D09-52; D13-28) well comparable, but not
 682 necessarily coeval with GHS_L rocks (samples D13-06; D09-10). These HP conditions were largely
 683 overprinted by sillimanite-bearing assemblages (e.g. Groppo *et al.*, 2009, 2010, 2012; Rolfo *et al.*,
 684 2015). Nevertheless, according to our experience, garnet compositions and their evaluation with P -
 685 T pseudosections have the capability to “detect” such a former HP metamorphic stage within the
 686 GHS_U migmatites (e.g. Groppo *et al.*, 2010, 2012). Interestingly, at HP conditions, melt was already
 687 present in the rock. With respect to this point, it must be stressed that melting during isothermal
 688 decompression (Harris & Massey, 1994) is efficient if white mica is present at HP conditions (e.g.
 689 Guilmette *et al.*, 2011; Groppo *et al.*, 2012), otherwise, if this mineral is consumed along the
 690 prograde heating, on decompression its role is rather minor, since the path is nearly parallel to the
 691 melt isomodes (e.g. Guilmette *et al.*, 2011; Groppo *et al.*, 2012). This aspect could have a deep
 692 impact on migmatite rheology and on exhumation process (e.g. Groppo *et al.*, 2012; Yakymchuk &
 693 Brown, 2014). Indeed, coupled with the melt extraction and the following upward displacement of

the migmatite solidus (Yakymchuk & Brown, 2014), an increase of rock viscosity and a shifting from diffuse to localized deformation would be possible.

Finally, it is worthy of note that the present P - T results along the Mugu Karnali transect are in agreement with both absolute values and shapes of P - T paths obtained by Groppo *et al.* (2009) for the metamorphic core in Eastern Nepal (see the review of Rolfo *et al.*, 2015).

P - T arrays and tectonic implications

P - T arrays are often used to constrain exhumation models of the GHS and of the Himalayan tectonics. P - T profiles are compared (*e.g.* Kohn, 2008, 2014; Groppo *et al.*, 2012; Yakymchuk & Godin, 2012; Rolfo *et al.*, 2015;) with the P - T paths predicted by numerical or thermo-mechanical models (*e.g.* channel flow model, Jamieson *et al.*, 2004, 2006 or critical taper model, Kohn, 2008 and references therein).

The LHS “hairpin” P - T path (D13-75) is in agreement with a critical taper model. GHS paths, characterized by decompressional heating, could be more compatible with a channel flow model (*e.g.* Kohn, 2014). Indeed, P - T paths for a LHS channel flow should be clockwise (*e.g.* Caddick *et al.*, 2007; Caddick & Kohn, 2013), whereas GHS paths in the critical taper model lack heating during decompression (Kohn, 2008). However, Gervais & Brown (2011) pointed out that neither a P - T path alone nor the absolute P - T peak is diagnostic for exhumation models. Instead, their timing associated with the strain path could be diagnostic. If we take into account the available geochronological data in the study area, the following time constraints are possible: (i) Carosi *et al.* (2013) demonstrated that the STDS shearing in Western Nepal was active before *c.* 24 Ma; (ii) Montomoli *et al.* (2013) pointed to an exhumation of the GHS_U, related to the activity of the MSZ, between 25–18 Ma, while the GHS_L was still experiencing an underthrusting stage; (iii) GHS_L prograde monazite ages are as young as 17 Ma, whereas retrograde ages (likely related to the MCTZ activity), as young as 13 Ma, are reported (Montomoli *et al.*, 2013); (iv) Robinson *et al.* (2006) provided white mica Ar-Ar (cooling) ages for the GHS (GHS_U in Yakymchuk & Godin,

720 2012), located west of the Mugu Karnali valley, as old as 25 Ma; (vi) Gibson *et al.* (2016), for
 721 samples located south of the here investigated area, reported white mica Ar-Ar cooling ages of *c.* 14
 722 Ma for GHS_U, and *c.* 19 Ma, interpreted as deformation ages, for GHS_L samples.
 723 These data, at least in Western Nepal, point to (i) a short duration of coeval activity of the STDS
 724 with basal thrusting (likely along the MSZ); and (ii) an activity of the MCTZ that lasted longer than
 725 that one of the STDS. Cooling/retrograde ages obtained from rocks of the GHS_U of this region
 726 overlap with prograde ages of the GHS_L. Systematic rejuvenation of metamorphic ages (both
 727 prograde and retrograde) going structurally downward has been frequently observed for the GHS
 728 (*e.g.* Kohn *et al.*, 2001; Corrie & Kohn, 2011; Larson *et al.*, 2013; Kohn, 2014, 2016; Wang *et al.*,
 729 2015; Carosi *et al.*, 2016). These ages could testify a diachronic equilibration controlled by the
 730 structural position in the GHS.
 731 The presented observations (porphyroblast-matrix relationship, different *P-T* paths and their timing)
 732 do not favour the nearly flat pre-MCT isograds as proposed in the model of isograd-folding
 733 (Stephenson *et al.*, 2001; Searle & Szulc, 2005), a post-metamorphic shearing of isograds (*e.g.*
 734 Hubbard, 1996), or an inverted temperature gradient through conductive heating (hot iron effect of
 735 Le Fort, 1975). Instead, a complex interaction of progressive deformation and metamorphism (see
 736 also Cottle *et al.*, 2015) is proposed for the assembly of the GHS, and the HMC in general, where
 737 different tectonic slices from below (Indian Plate) are accreted at greater depths tectonically
 738 juxtaposing slices with a diachronic metamorphic and deformational history. The MSZ, and perhaps
 739 the TSZ as well, represent tectonic boundaries of these slices. The process of fast exhumation of
 740 thin crustal slices has been recently invoked by Spear (2014) in order to explain his garnet diffusion
 741 profile models for the Devonian Acadian metamorphic event in Vermont. Exhumation of high-
 742 grade rocks due to thrusting alone has been shown elsewhere (Platt, 1993; Ring *et al.*, Stüwe
 743 & Barr, to be ineffective. Thus, a combination of thrusting plus erosion (starting in the
 744 Himalaya during the Eocene *e.g.* Najman *et al.*, 2008, Carosi *et al.*, 2016), and/or thrusting plus
 745 ductile thinning (Ring *et al.*, 1999), and/or thrusting plus normal faulting is required. During this

exhumation stage the STDS could be active or inactive, in alternating periods of coeval activity (e.g. Chambers *et al.*, 2011) with basal thrusting.

In the light of our new findings, it appears that an updated tectonic model, which could account for all structural complexities, is needed for the Himalaya (e.g. Cottle *et al.*, 2015). However, as already proposed in Fraser *et al.* (2000), one point should be considered: “models based on the preserved metamorphic field gradient, and that consider the HHC [*i.e.* GHS] as a single coherent section, must be considered suspect” (Fraser *et al.*, 2000).

According to the presented P-T-d-t paths of the HMC, a kinematic model where the HMC is progressively build up and exhumed by in-sequence shearing (e.g. Carosi *et al.*, 2016) is favoured. Ductile thinning of the HMC and normal faulting (along the STDS) would assist the exhumation process.

Finally, caution is strongly recommended in assuming that the tectono-metamorphic history of the low-grade part of metamorphic terranes (e.g. GHS_L) could be the same of that registered by higher-grade samples (e.g. GHS_U, see also Spear & Rumble, 1986). Available geochronological data in the GHS (e.g. Corrie & Kohn, 2011; Larson *et al.*, 2013; Montomoli *et al.*, 2013; Kohn, 2014, 2016; Wang *et al.*, 2015) often show that both prograde and retrograde metamorphic ages, are younger in the lower grade metamorphic rocks respect to the higher grade, that is the opposite of what could be expected for a “simple” prograde path (e.g. Weller *et al.*, 2013).

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 1036 In the inset, stereoplots of the main structural elements of LHS and GHS are reported (Wulff net –
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 1038 MKT=Main Karakoram Thrust; MMT=Main Mantle Thrust; TB=Tibetan Block; ITSZ=Indus

1039 Tsangpo Suture Zone; GCT=Great Counter Thrust; TSS=Tethyan Sedimentary Sequence;
 1040 GHS=Greater Himalayan Sequence; STDS=South Tibetan Detachment System; MCT=Main
 1041 Central Thrust; MBT=Main Boundary Thrust; MFT=Main Frontal Thrust; K=Kashmir basin;
 1042 P=Peshawar basin; S=Sutlej basin.

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1044 Figure 2. Simplified geological cross-section (A-A', see Fig. 1c) along the Mugu Karnali transect.

1045 (a) L-tectonites (seen on two high angle surfaces) developed in chlorite-bearing quartzite (Grt I

1046 zone, LHS); (b) Garnet-staurolite porphyroblasts within a paragneiss (St + Bt \pm Ky zone, GHS_L);

1047 (c) Large garnet porphyroblasts with internal foliation (S_i) in a garnet-kyanite-bearing paragneiss

1048 (St-out zone, GHS_L); (d) Mylonitic fabric reworking K-feldspar-, \pm garnet-, \pm aluminosilicates-

1049 bearing leucosomes, showing top-to the W/SW sense of shear in the Tiyar Shear Zone (TSZ) within

1050 the Kfs + Als zone (GHS_U); (e) Folded leucosomes in the garnet-bearing migmatite (Als + Kfs

1051 zone, GHS_U); (f) Flanking fold (N-type) pointing a top-to the E/SE sense of shear, within medium-

1052 low grade intercalations of phyllite and calcisilicate (ES).

1053

1054 Figure 3. Meso- and microphotos of rocks from the migmatitic complex. (a) Garnet (arrow) bearing

1055 stromatic migmatite within the GHS_U; (b) Discordant leucocratic veinlet in an anatectic gneiss; (c)

1056 Euhedral mineral (arrow) included a plagioclase; (d) Feldspar film (arrow) around a corroded quartz

1057 grain; (e) Euhedral feldspar (arrow) within leucosome; (f) K-feldspar-bearing nanogranitoids

1058 (arrow) within peritectic garnet.

1059

1060 Figure 4. Representative garnet X-Ray compositional elementary (Mn, Ca, Mg, Fe) maps of

1061 selected samples from different structural position (see text for details). Colors were adjusted to best

1062 display the internal zoning.

1063

Figure 5. Chemical variation of main silicates in the studied samples. (a) garnet; (b) feldspar; (c) biotite; (d) potassic white mica. Abbreviations as follow: in Grt= inclusion in garnet; in St= inclusions in staurolite; Sp-1= older foliation preserved within microlithons; Sp = main foliation; post Sp = post-kinematic grain; +Sil = back reaction with biotite texturally associated with sillimanite.

Figure 6. (a) Crenulation cleavage and syn-tectonic garnet porphyroblast in D13-75 (LHS, Grt I zone); (b) Syn-tectonic plagioclase porphyroblast and biotite in LHS in D13-75 (LHS, Grt I zone); (c) General aspect of D13-06 (GHS_L, Grt II zone) showing skeletal garnet with asymmetric pressure shadows and late chlorite; (d) Garnet-staurolite-kyanite paragneiss of GHS_L (sample D09-10, St + Bt ± Ky zone). Note the garnet texture; (e) Syn-tectonic staurolite with S_i continuous with the external one (D09-10); (f) Garnet inclusion within staurolite porphyroblast (D09-10);

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1092 intersection of mineral compositions (ellipses). Grt in-R = garnet-in curve after garnet core
1093 fractionation (see also Fig. S4); (c) *P-T* pseudosection of sample D09-52 (GHS_U, Als+Wm zone);
1094 (d) Inferred *P-T* path of sample D09-52 based on compositional isopleths (ellipses) and minerals
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1100

1101 Figure 11. Summary diagram showing pressure-temperature estimates and *P-T* paths along the
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1109 Table 2. Selected EMP analyses (in wt.%) of feldspars (Pl and Kfs). Structural formula was
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1112

1113 Table 3. Representative EMP analyses (in wt.%) of biotite and chlorite in the study samples. Biotite
1114 structural formula was recalculated on the basis of 11 O, whereas 28 O was used for chlorite.
1115 Abbreviations as reported in Table 2.

1116

1117 Table 4. Selected EMP analyses (in wt.%) of white micas and staurolite in the study samples.

1118 Structural formula was recalculated on the basis of 11 O for white micas and on 46 O for staurolite.

1119 Abbreviations as in Table 2 plus f=large mica fish.

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1122 SUPPORTING INFORMATION

1123 Supplementary figure captions

1124 Fig. S1 – Sample D13-75 details of pseudosection calculation, with compositional isopleths: (a)

1125 XMn and XCa in garnet; (b) garnet XMg and Grt vol.% (100% solids) isomodes; (c) XMg in

1126 chlorite and Si a.p.f.u in white mica.

1127

1128 Fig. S2 – Sample D13-06 details of pseudosection calculation, with compositional isopleths: (a)

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1130 and Si a.p.f.u in white mica.

1131

1132 Fig. S3 – Sample D09-10 details of pseudosection calculation, with compositional isopleths of: (a)

1133 garnet XMn and XCa; (b) garnet XMg and Grt vol.% (100% solids) isomodes; (c) XMg in biotite

1134 and Si a.p.f.u in white mica.

1135

1136 Fig. S4 – Sample D09-10 details of (a) *P-T* pseudosection after garnet core fractionation; and

1137 compositional isopleths of: (b) garnet XMn and XCa; (c) garnet XMg and Grt vol.% (100% solids)

1138 Grt isomodes; (d) XMg in biotite and Si a.p.f.u in white mica.

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1140 Fig. S5 – Sample D09-52 details of pseudosection calculation, with compositional isopleths of: (a)
1141 XMn and XCa in garnet; (b) garnet XMg and vol% (100% solids) Grt isomodes; (c) XMg in biotite
1142 and Si a.p.f.u in white mica.

1143

1144 Fig. S6 – T-XH₂O pseudosection for D13-28 at a fixed P of 0.70 GPa. On the abscissa axis H₂O
1145 wt% is reported. Arrow indicates the selected water amount for *P-T* pseudosection.

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1147 Fig. S7 – Sample D13-28 details of pseudosection calculation, with compositional isopleths of: (a)
1148 XCa and XFe in garnet; (b) XMg in biotite and XAb in plagioclase.

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1150 Fig. S8 – Examples of pristine rutile, coexisting with zircon, within sample D13-28.

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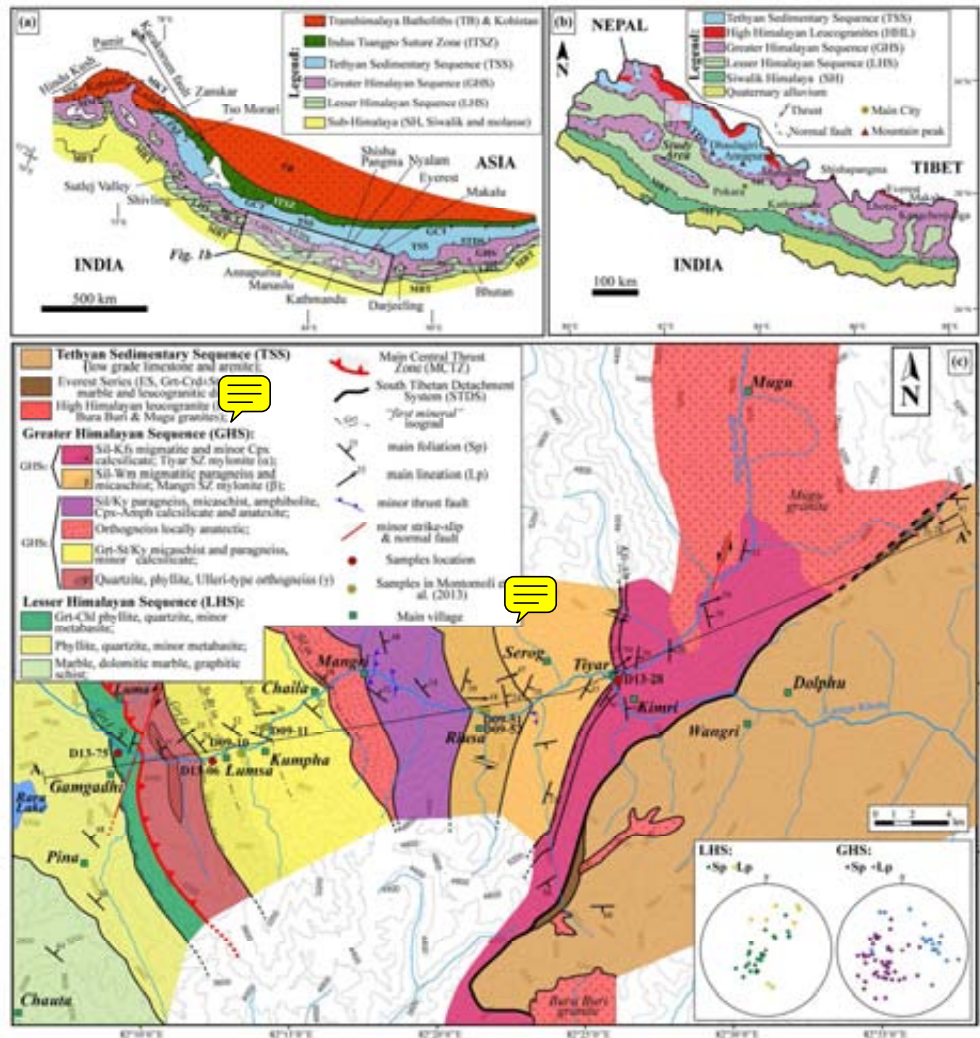


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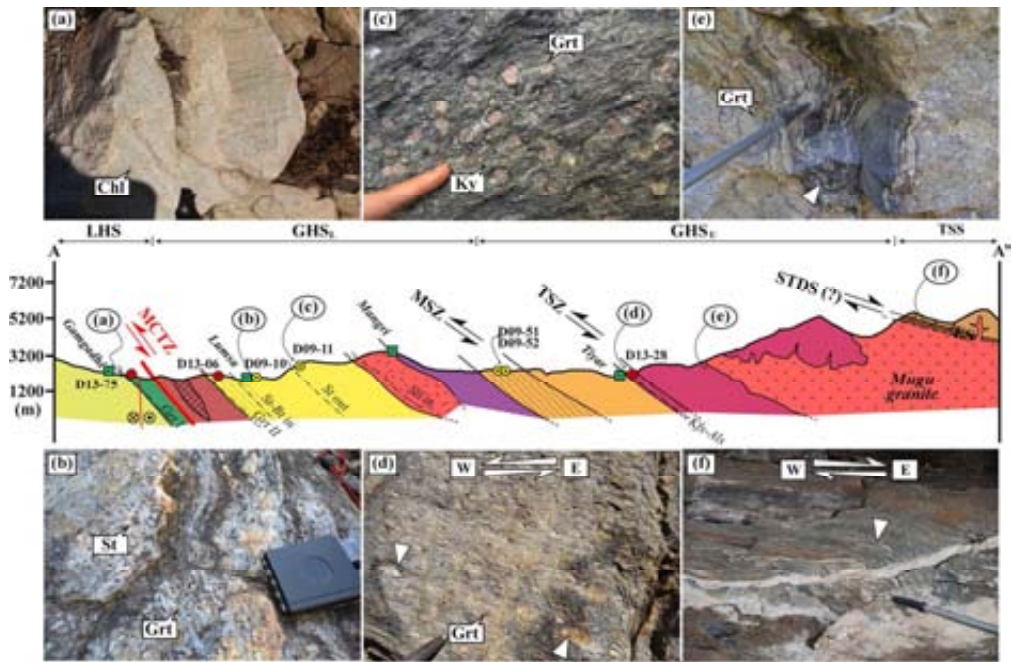


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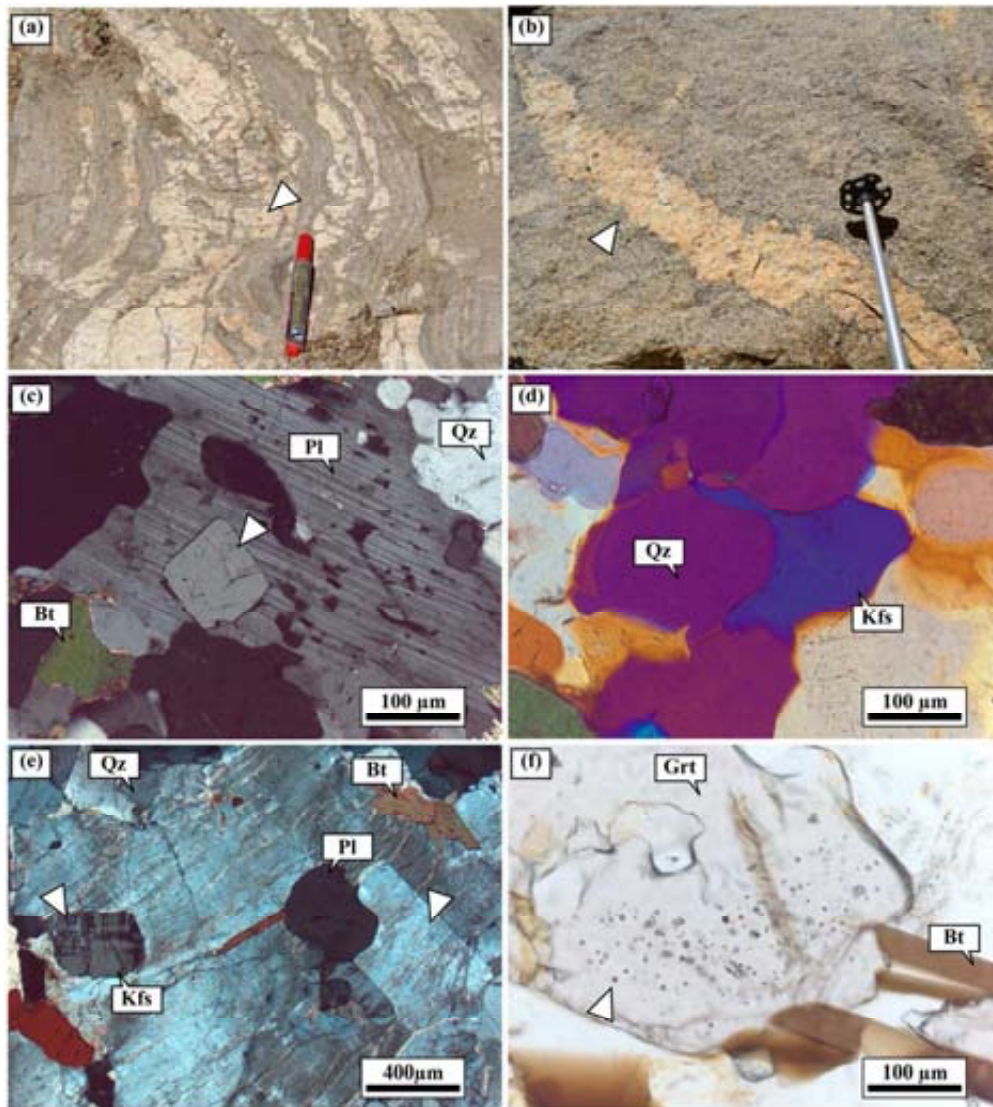


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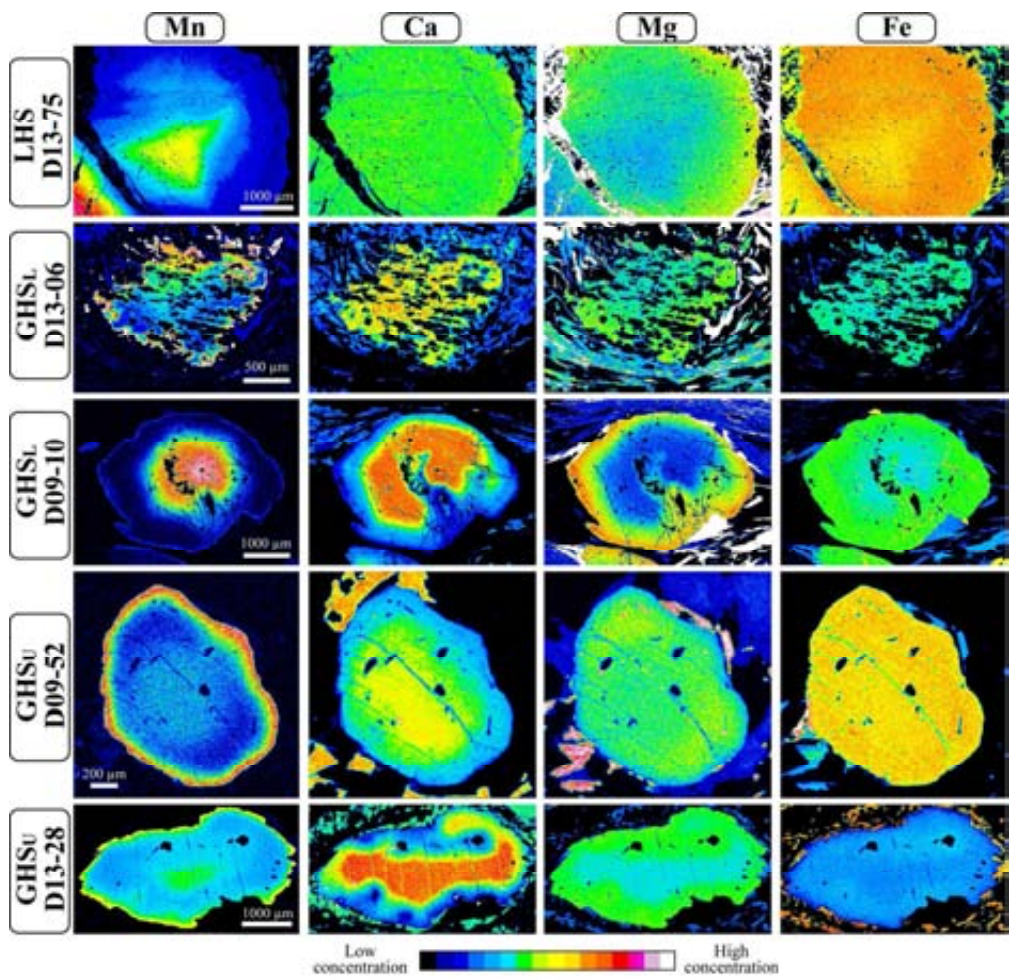


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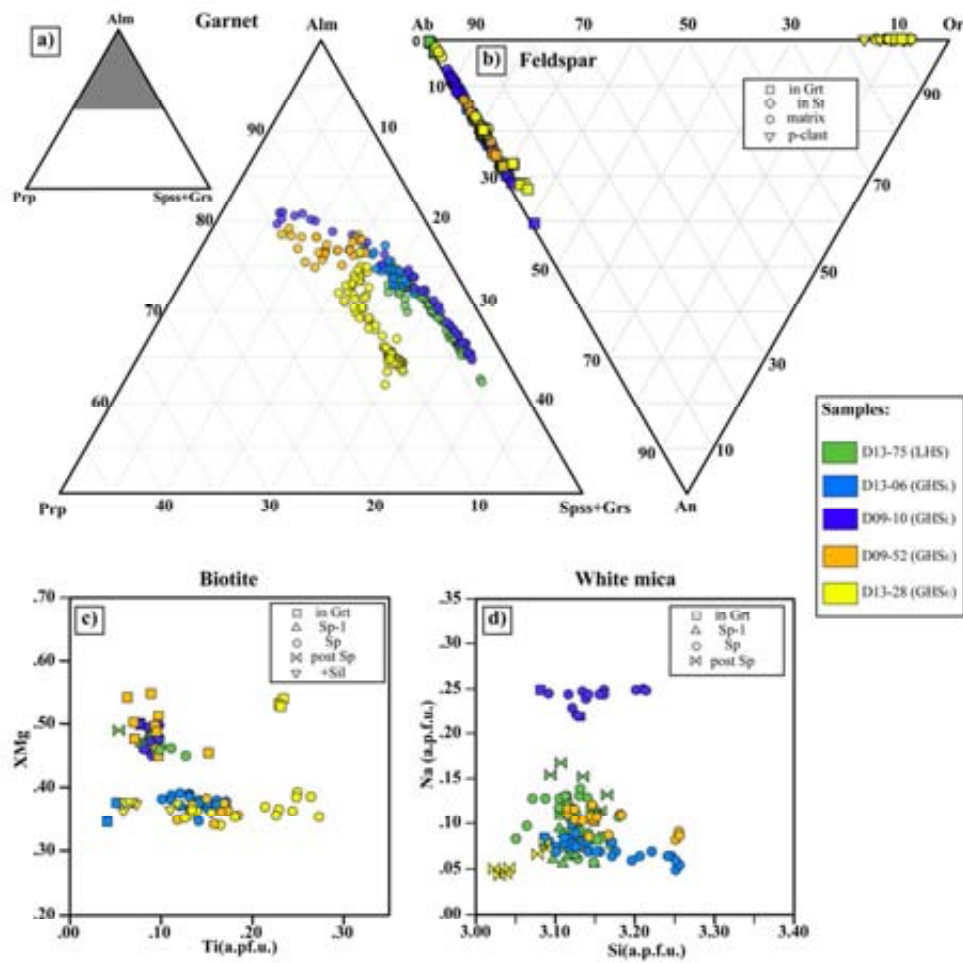


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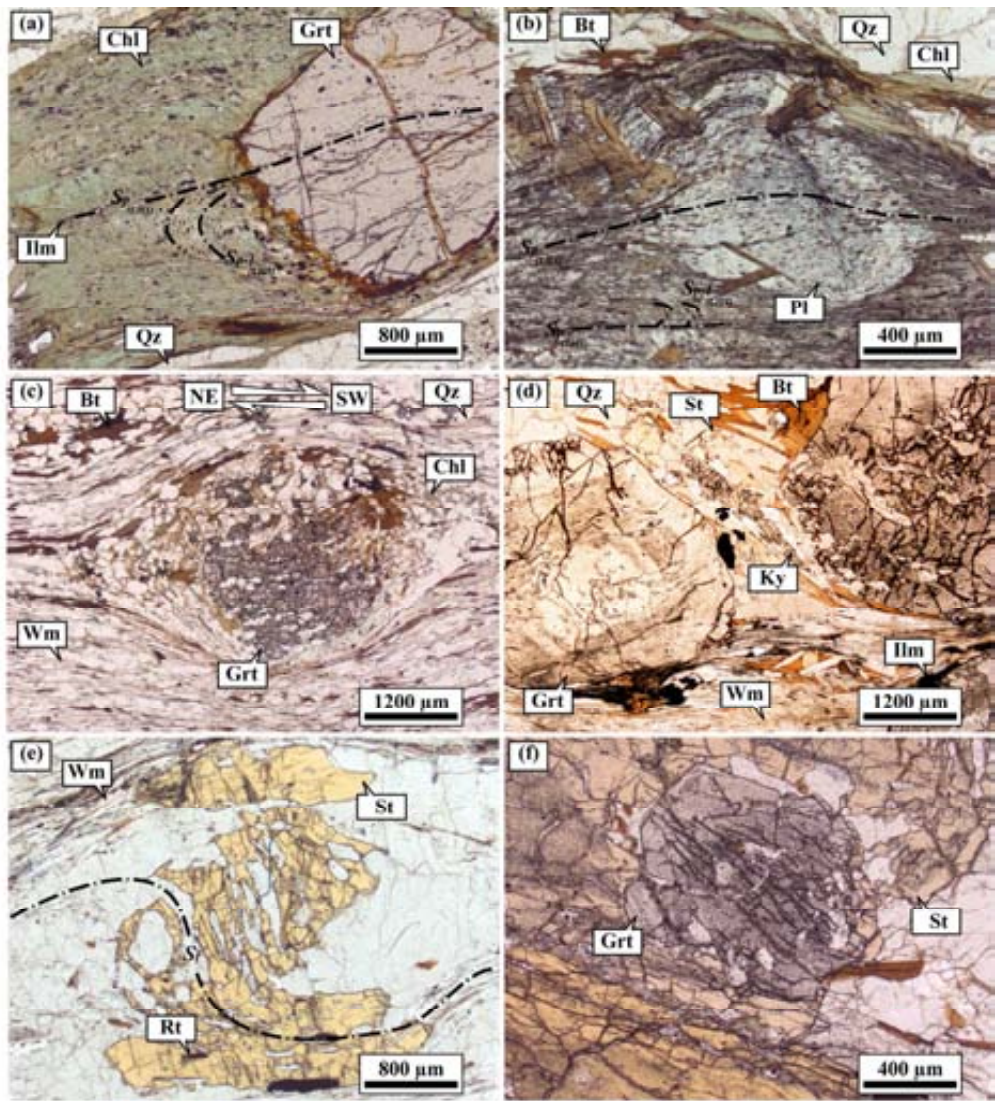


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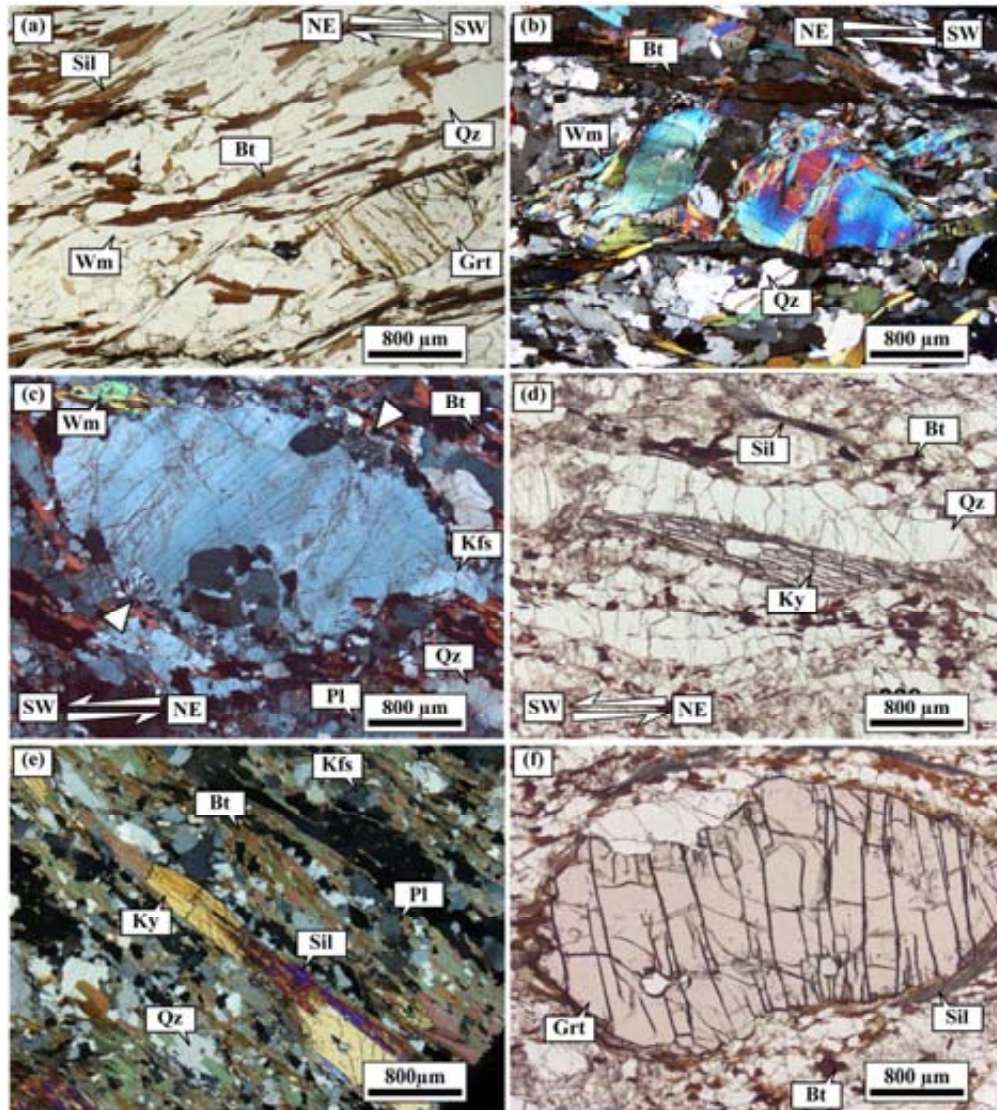


Figure 7. (a) Garnet-sillimanite bearing mylonitic paragneiss, sample D09-52 (GHSU: Als + Wm zone); (b) Details of large kinked white mica (sample D09-52, GHSU: Als + Wm zone); (c) K-feldspar porphyroclast with asymmetric myrmekite from sample D13-28 (GHSU: Als + Kfs zone). Note the late white mica; (d) Kyanite fish from D13-28 (GHSU: Als + Kfs zone). Note the quartz-feldspar ribbons and the co-existence of sillimanite; (e) Boudinage of large pre-kinematic kyanite, with syn-kinematic sillimanite growth in the dilatational sites (sample D13-28); (f) Flattened garnet from sample D13-28. Note that the garnet edge is replaced by sillimanite+biotite.

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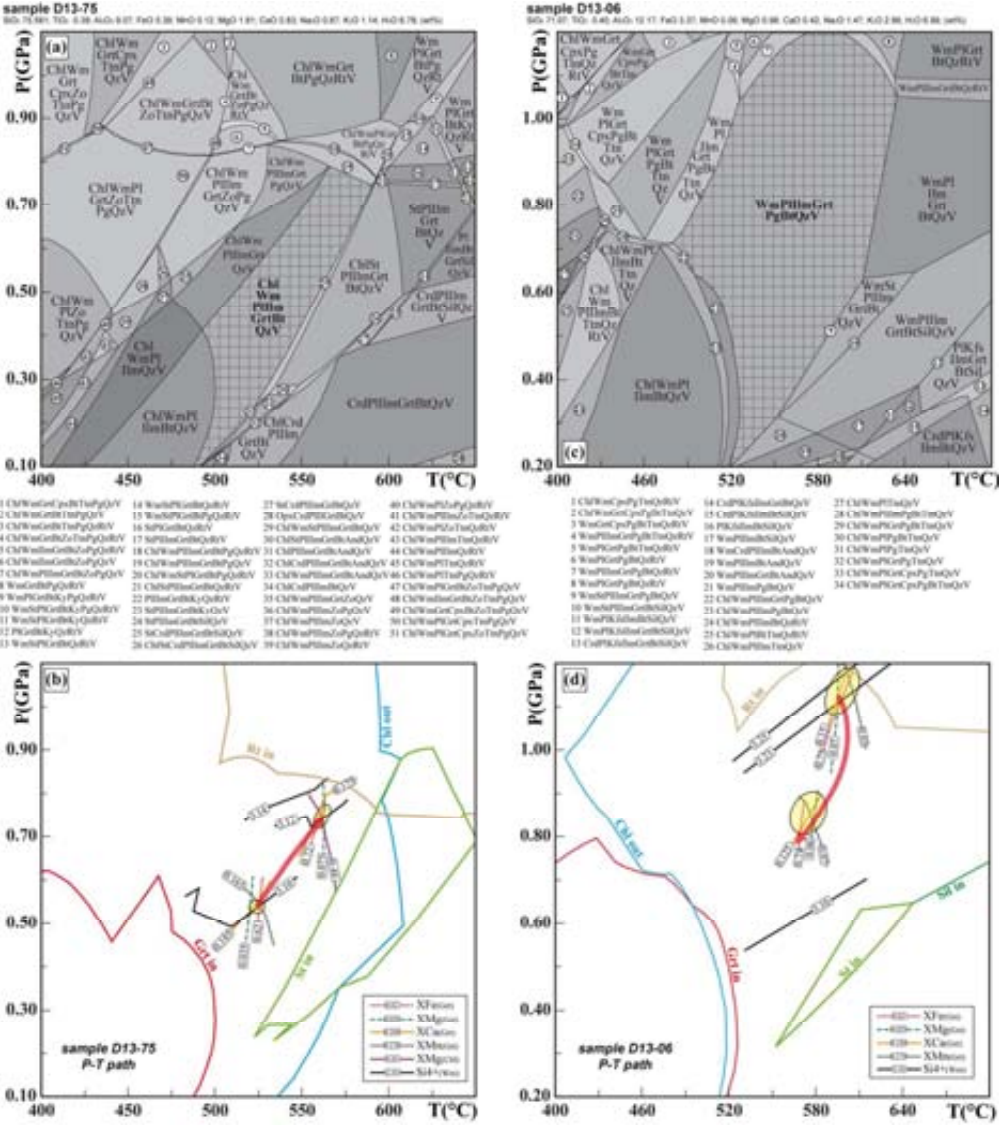


Figure 8. (a) P-T pseudosection of D13-75 (LHS, Grt I zone). Observed mineral assemblage in bold; (b) P-T path from D13-75 sample, obtained with isopleths thermobarometry (ellipses); (c) P-T pseudosection for sample D13-06 (GHS, Grt II zone). In bold the observed mineral assemblage; (d) P-T path for D13-06 sample reconstructed with isopleths thermobarometry (ellipses).

150x168mm (300 x 300 DPI)

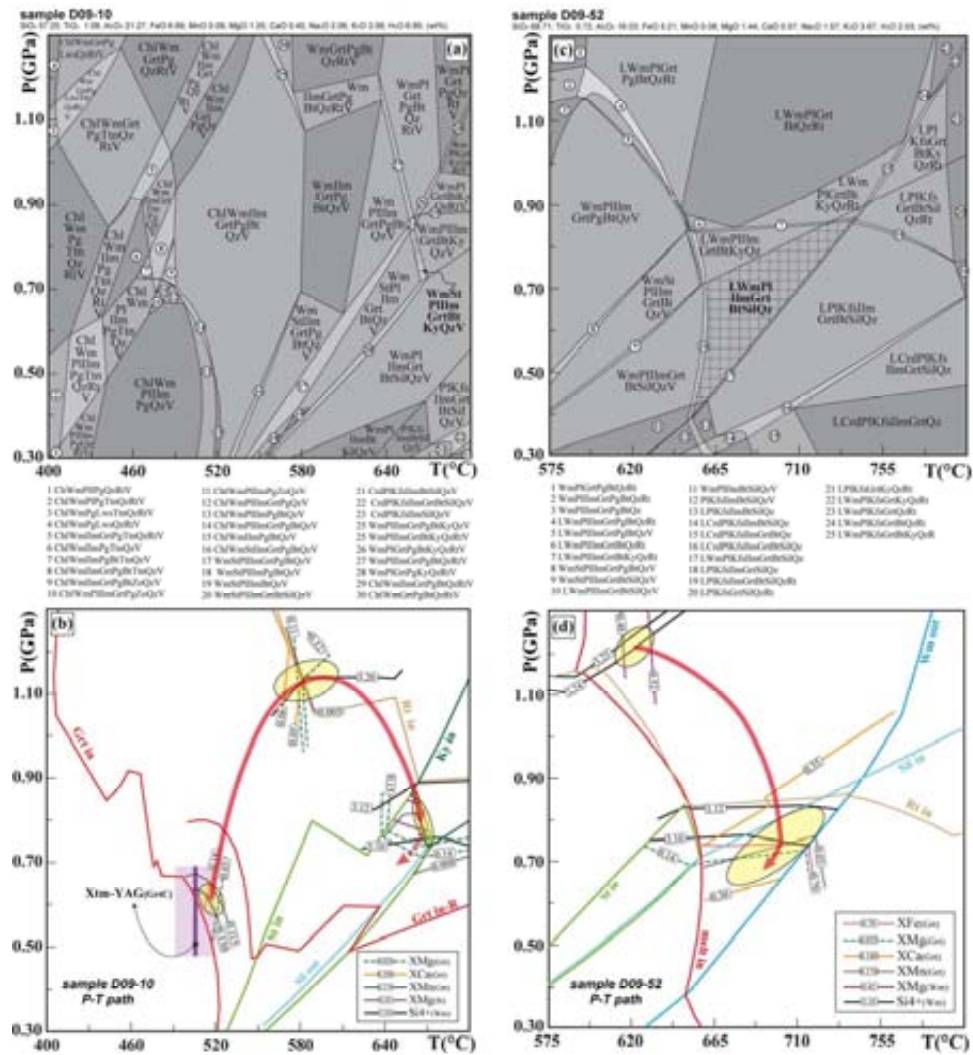


Figure 9. (a) P-T pseudosection of D09-10 (GHSL, St+Bt±Ky zone). In bold is reported the observed mineral assemblage in the sample; (b) Inferred P-T path for D09-10 sample, based on intersection of mineral compositions (ellipses). Grt in-R = garnet-in curve after garnet core fractionation (see also Fig. S4); (c) P-T pseudosection of sample D09-52 (GHSU, Als+Wm zone); (d) Inferred P-T path of sample D09-52 based on compositional isopleths (ellipses) and minerals association (in bold in Fig. 9c).

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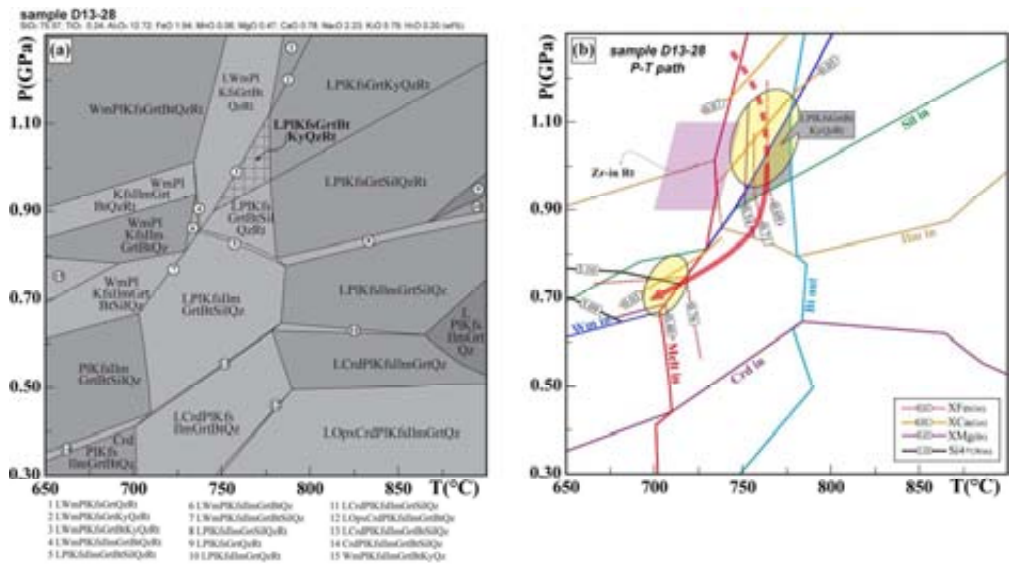


Figure 10. (a) P-T pseudosection of D13-28 (GHSU, Als + Kfs zone); (b) Proposed P-T path for D13-28 based on compositional isopleths (ellipses), minerals assemblages and Zr-in rutile thermometer.

150x85mm (300 x 300 DPI)

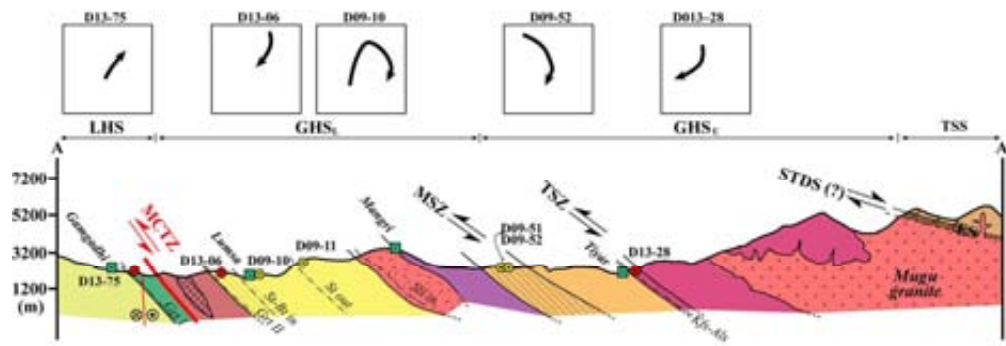


Figure 11. Summary diagram showing pressure-temperature estimates and P-T paths along the Mugu Karnali. Symbols as in Fig. 1, see text for details.

150x51mm (300 x 300 DPI)

Table 1

sample	D13-75	D13-75	D13-75	D13-06	D13-06	D13-06	D09-10	D09-10	D09-10	D09-52	D09-52	D09-52	D13-28	D13-28	D13-28
position	c	int	r	c	int	r	c	int	r	c	int	r	c	int	r
SiO ₂	35.26	36.80	36.98	36.55	36.41	36.08	37.61	37.40	36.91	38.07	38.24	37.15	34.87	34.79	34.58
TiO ₂	0.13	0.07	0.02	0.05	0.04	0.04	0.10	0.01	0.01	0.00	0.07	0.03	0.00	0.02	0.01
Al ₂ O ₃	20.69	21.32	21.81	21.36	21.04	21.15	22.07	22.30	22.45	20.69	21.01	21.36	20.58	20.86	20.87
Cr ₂ O ₃	0.04	0.02	0.01	0.01	0.02	0.02	0.00	0.02	0.06	0.05	0.04	0.00	0.00	0.02	0.01
FeO _{tot}	29.48	33.93	33.37	33.47	33.74	33.11	30.00	37.11	37.16	33.29	36.19	35.20	32.27	34.52	35.61
MnO	6.89	2.18	1.08	1.36	2.16	2.88	5.63	0.16	0.61	3.07	0.79	4.97	2.00	1.95	3.52
MgO	0.86	1.22	1.93	1.70	1.56	1.58	0.83	3.08	3.38	2.42	3.73	1.88	2.84	2.80	1.98
CaO	6.42	6.19	6.36	5.18	4.90	4.38	6.51	2.33	1.58	3.57	1.82	1.09	5.47	3.99	2.53
Na ₂ O	0.02	0.02	0.01	0.03	0.02	0.03	0.00	0.01	0.00	0.00	0.01	0.00	0.02	0.02	0.02
Total	99.90	101.75	101.56	99.71	99.91	99.25	102.75	102.41	102.17	101.22	101.96	101.68	98.32	98.98	99.13
Si	5.59	5.76	5.76	5.85	5.83	5.80	5.87	5.79	5.69	6.11	6.02	5.92	5.52	5.46	5.54
Ti	0.02	0.01	0.00	0.01	0.01	0.00	0.01	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Al	3.86	3.93	4.00	4.03	3.97	4.01	4.06	4.07	4.08	3.91	3.90	4.01	3.84	3.86	3.87
Cr	0.01	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.03	0.00	0.00	0.02	0.01	0.01	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Fe ³⁺	0.13	0.06	0.00	0.00	0.03	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.08	0.02	0.00	0.16	0.14	0.13
Fe ²⁺	3.78	4.38	4.34	4.48	4.49	4.45	3.92	4.81	4.79	4.39	4.74	4.69	4.13	4.41	4.62
Mn	0.93	0.29	0.14	0.18	0.29	0.39	0.74	0.02	0.08	0.42	0.10	0.67	0.27	0.26	0.47
Mg	0.20	0.29	0.45	0.40	0.37	0.38	0.19	0.71	0.78	0.58	0.88	0.45	0.67	0.66	0.47
Ca	1.09	1.04	1.06	0.89	0.84	0.75	1.09	0.39	0.26	0.61	0.30	0.19	0.93	0.67	0.43
Na	0.01	0.01	0.00	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.01	0.01	0.01

Table 2

sample	D13-75	D13-75	D13-75	D13-06	D13-06	D13-06	D09-10	D09-10	D09-52	D09-52	D09-52	D13-28	D13-28	D13-28	D13-28	D13-28
mineral	PI	PI	PI	PI	PI	PI	PI	PI	PI	PI	PI	PI	PI	PI	Kfs	Kfs
position	in-Grt	m-c	m-r	in-Grt	m-c	m-r	m-c	m-r	in-Grt	m-c	m-r	in-Grt	m-c	m-r	in-Grt	m
SiO ₂	62.98	62.14	61.38	62.22	64.54	64.36	65.76	64.80	62.00	65.98	64.95	57.54	61.55	61.60	63.07	62.93
Al ₂ O ₃	22.56	24.52	24.56	23.40	21.34	21.52	21.89	21.85	24.14	21.56	22.43	23.77	21.80	22.52	17.98	18.03
FeO _{tot}	1.02	0.26	0.45	0.22	0.08	0.11	0.18	0.12	0.17	0.03	0.11	0.15	0.09	0.08	0.03	0.02
MgO	0.03	0.00	0.01	0.00	0.01	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.04	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.01
BaO	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.02	0.00	0.00	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.17	0.11
CaO	4.18	6.11	6.05	4.70	2.66	2.79	1.87	1.64	5.76	2.70	3.73	6.97	3.62	4.11	0.02	0.08
Na ₂ O	8.97	7.97	8.20	9.25	10.33	10.24	10.09	10.67	8.10	9.74	9.09	7.55	9.81	9.51	1.04	1.16
K ₂ O	0.09	0.10	0.09	0.07	0.09	0.07	0.11	0.12	0.13	0.09	0.12	0.50	0.20	0.11	15.63	15.68
Total	99.83	101.10	100.74	99.87	99.04	99.08	99.90	99.20	100.30	100.10	100.43	96.52	97.07	97.93	97.94	98.02
Si	2.80	2.73	2.71	2.76	2.87	2.86	2.91	2.89	2.74	2.88	2.85	2.67	2.81	2.79	2.99	2.98
Al	1.18	1.27	1.28	1.22	1.12	1.13	1.11	1.13	1.26	1.14	1.16	1.30	1.17	1.20	1.00	1.01
Fe ²⁺	0.03	0.01	0.02	0.01	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.01	0.01	0.00	0.01	0.01	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Mg	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Ba	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	—	—	—	—	—	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Ca	0.20	0.29	0.29	0.22	0.13	0.13	0.11	0.09	0.27	0.14	0.18	0.35	0.18	0.20	0.00	0.00
Na	0.77	0.68	0.70	0.80	0.89	0.88	0.81	0.86	0.70	0.81	0.77	0.68	0.87	0.84	0.10	0.11
K	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.00	0.01	0.00	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.03	0.01	0.01	0.94	0.95

Table 3

sample	D13-75	D13-75	D13-75	D13-75	D13-06	D13-06	D09-10	D09-10	D09-52	D09-52	D13-28	D13-28	D13-28
mineral	Bt	Bt	Chl	Chl	Bt	Bt	Bt	Bt	Bt	Bt	Bt	Bt	Bt
position	in-Grt	m	in-Grt	m	in-Grt	m	in-Grt	m	in-Grt	m	in-Grt	m	m
SiO ₂	36.21	36.19	25.13	24.80	33.93	35.09	36.24	37.92	36.99	36.10	35.20	33.96	33.68
TiO ₂	1.54	1.52	0.10	0.09	0.76	2.38	0.83	1.38	1.64	2.65	4.08	4.65	1.15
Al ₂ O ₃	16.85	17.73	21.99	22.73	18.10	17.24	19.29	19.29	20.10	20.15	18.88	17.42	19.55
FeO _{tot}	21.17	19.67	28.02	27.98	23.45	23.06	0.01	19.03	18.25	21.79	15.58	22.34	22.27
MnO	0.11	0.10	0.52	0.15	0.14	0.10	21.92	0.00	0.06	0.13	0.02	0.19	0.09
MgO	10.30	10.15	13.03	13.29	7.93	7.63	8.93	10.66	10.17	7.63	10.32	6.91	7.57
BaO	0.10	0.09	0.00	0.00	0.05	0.17	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	0.12	0.13	0.03
CaO	0.11	0.02	0.10	0.02	0.03	0.00	0.03	0.00	0.13	0.04	0.05	0.00	0.03
Na ₂ O	0.13	0.13	0.03	0.00	0.12	0.09	0.21	0.30	0.28	0.26	0.26	0.09	0.09
K ₂ O	9.17	9.63	0.02	0.05	9.71	9.45	7.95	7.88	8.68	8.66	9.89	10.02	9.87
Total	95.69	95.23	88.94	89.11	94.22	95.21	95.40	96.46	96.31	97.40	94.40	95.71	94.33
Si	2.77	2.77	5.30	5.21	2.69	2.73	2.75	2.79	2.74	2.69	2.67	2.64	2.65
Ti	0.09	0.09	0.02	0.02	0.05	0.19	0.05	0.08	0.09	0.15	0.23	0.27	0.07
Al	1.52	1.60	5.47	5.63	1.69	1.58	1.73	1.70	1.76	1.77	1.69	1.60	1.81
Fe ²⁺	1.35	1.26	4.94	4.92	1.55	1.50	1.39	1.16	1.13	1.13	0.99	1.45	1.46
Mn	0.01	0.01	0.09	0.03	0.01	0.01	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.01	0.01
Mg	1.18	1.16	4.10	4.16	0.94	0.89	1.01	1.14	1.12	1.12	1.17	0.80	0.89
Ba	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.01	–	–	–	–	0.00	0.00	0.00
Ca	0.01	0.00	0.02	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.01	0.01	0.00	0.00	0.00
Na	0.02	0.02	0.01	0.00	0.02	0.01	0.03	0.05	0.04	0.04	0.04	0.01	0.01
K	0.90	0.94	0.01	0.01	0.98	0.95	0.77	0.76	0.82	0.82	0.96	1.00	0.99

Table 4

sample	D13-75	D13-75	D13-06	D13-06	D09-10	D09-10	D09-10	D09-10	D09-52	D09-52	D13-28	D13-28	D09-10	D09-10
mineral	Wm	Wm	Wm	Wm	Pg	Wm	Wm	Wm	Wm	Wm	Wm	Wm	St	St
position	in-Grt	m	m	m	in-Grt	in-Grt	m	m	f	m	m	m	c	r
SiO ₂	46.68	47.13	47.78	46.26	31.93	47.13	49.10	48.30	48.70	48.17	46.17	44.74	28.56	28.58
TiO ₂	0.24	0.26	0.63	0.68	0.21	0.48	0.65	0.53	0.93	0.85	0.53	0.00	0.79	0.68
Al ₂ O ₃	34.55	34.33	30.27	33.86	48.39	36.89	34.72	36.51	31.94	36.21	34.44	36.05	52.32	51.39
FeO _{tot}	1.79	1.51	2.28	2.05	1.39	0.95	1.20	1.02	1.79	1.24	2.28	0.77	13.84	13.60
ZnO	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	0.32	0.27
MnO	0.04	0.04	0.00	0.00	0.03	0.01	0.00	0.00	0.02	0.05	0.07	0.00	0.07	0.05
MgO	1.09	1.16	1.85	1.10	0.17	0.45	0.49	0.51	1.15	0.49	0.67	0.26	1.60	1.55
BaO	0.13	0.07	0.18	0.21	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	b.d.	b.d.	n.a.	n.a.
CaO	0.03	0.01	0.01	0.02	10.86	0.03	0.08	0.00	0.04	0.01	0.07	0.02	0.00	0.01
Na ₂ O	0.86	1.12	0.51	0.58	1.55	1.99	1.99	1.84	0.64	0.94	0.59	0.39	n.a.	n.a.
K ₂ O	10.23	9.63	10.65	10.51	0.02	7.07	7.09	7.49	8.77	9.03	10.91	11.21	0.01	0.00
Total	95.64	95.26	94.16	95.26	94.55	95.00	95.33	96.20	93.98	97.00	95.73	97.86	97.52	96.14
Si	3.10	3.13	3.24	3.10	2.14	3.08	3.20	3.12	3.25	3.11	3.09	3.04	7.95	8.07
Ti	0.01	0.01	0.03	0.03	0.01	0.02	0.03	0.03	0.05	0.042	0.03	0.00	0.17	0.15
Al	2.71	2.69	2.42	2.67	3.82	2.84	2.67	2.78	2.51	2.76	2.71	2.89	17.18	17.09
Fe ²⁺	0.10	0.08	0.13	0.11	0.08	0.05	0.07	0.06	0.10	0.07	0.13	0.04	3.23	3.20
Zn	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	0.07	0.05
Mn	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.01	0.00	0.02	0.02
Mg	0.11	0.12	0.19	0.11	0.02	0.04	0.05	0.05	0.11	0.05	0.07	0.03	0.67	0.64
Ba	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.01	—	—	—	—	—	—	0.08	0.00	—	—
Ca	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.78	0.00	0.01	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Na	0.11	0.14	0.07	0.07	0.20	0.25	0.25	0.23	0.08	0.12	0.08	0.05	—	—
K	0.87	0.82	0.92	0.90	0.00	0.59	0.59	0.62	0.75	0.75	0.93	0.97	0.00	0.00

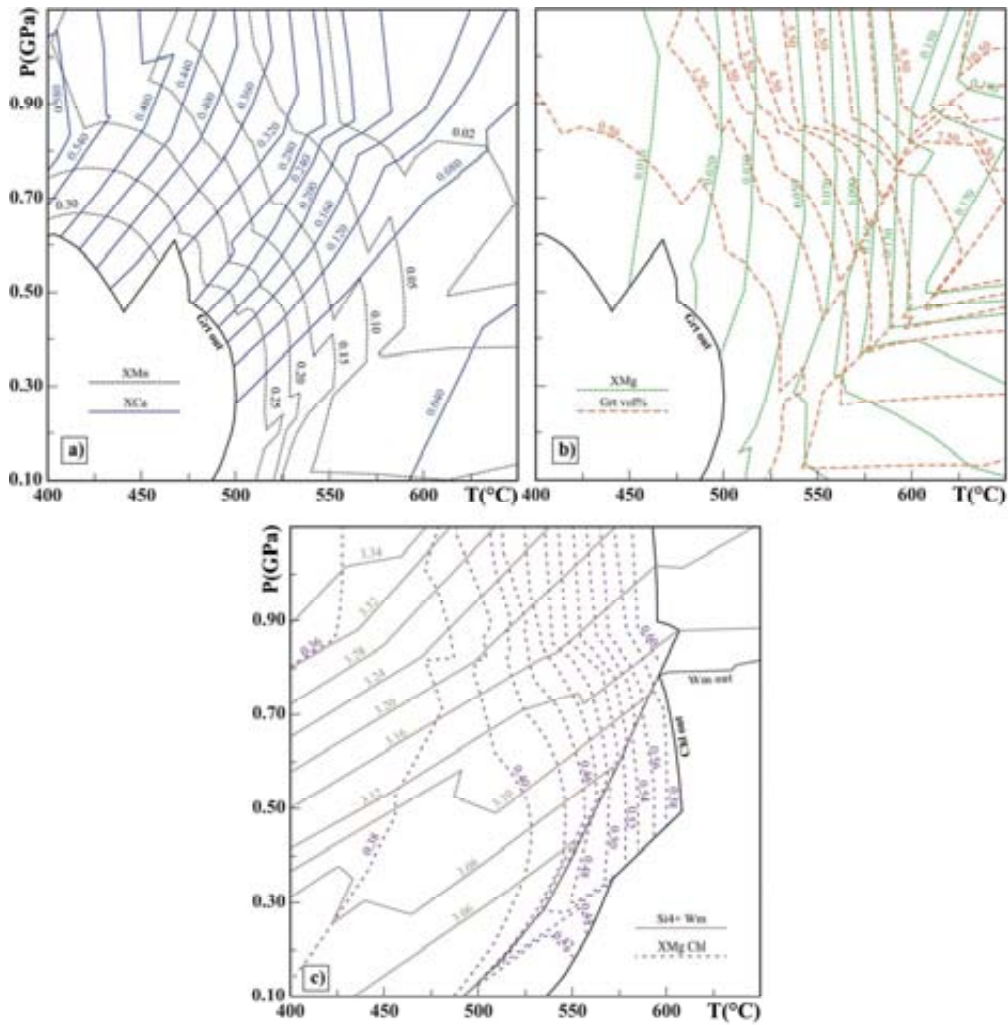


Fig. S1



150x162mm (300 x 300 DPI)

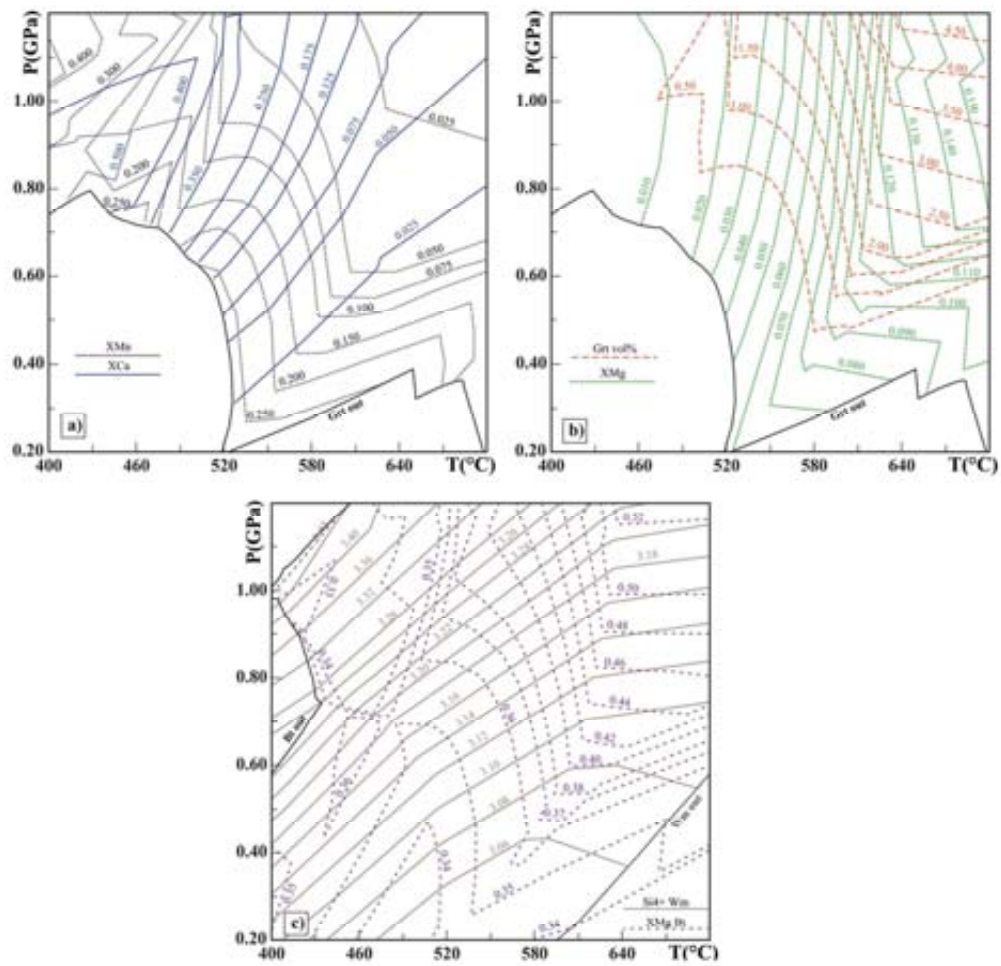


Fig. S2

150x152mm (300 x 300 DPI)

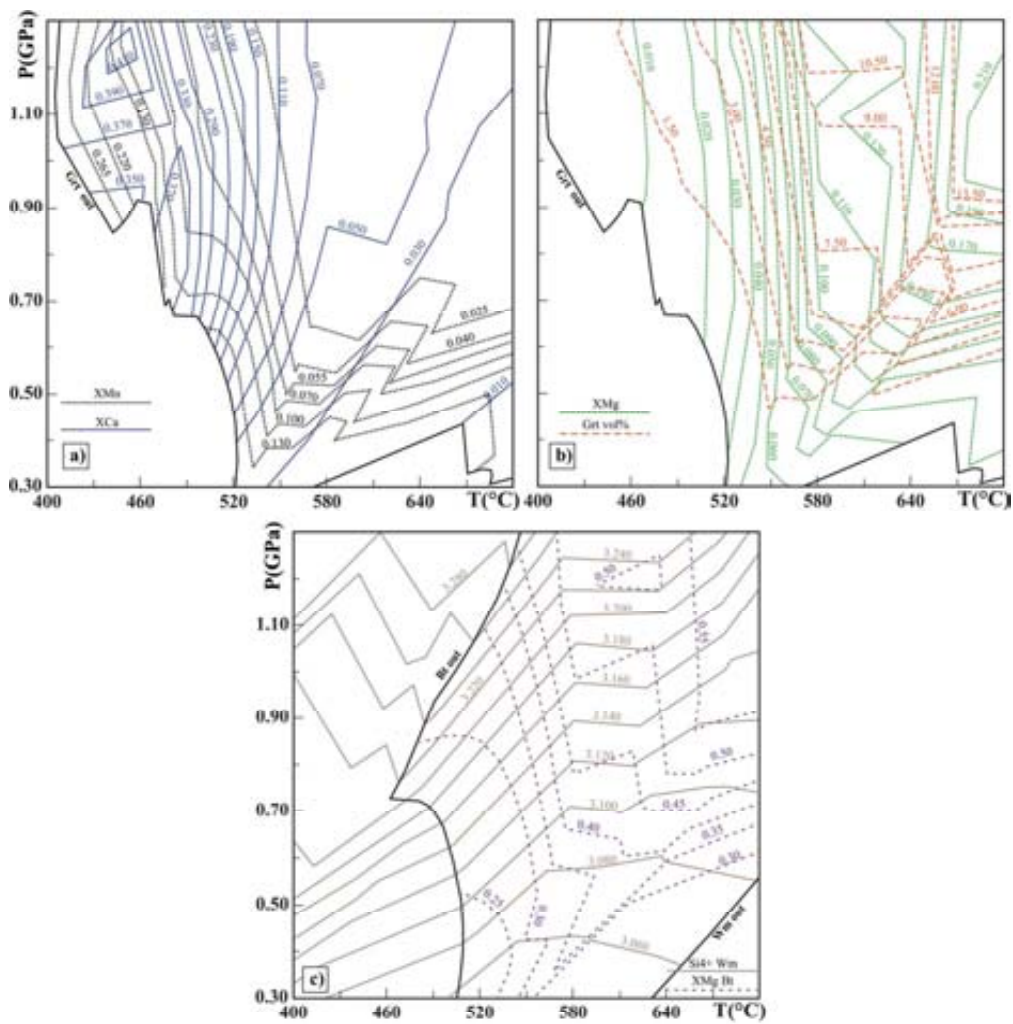


Fig. S3

150x165mm (300 x 300 DPI)

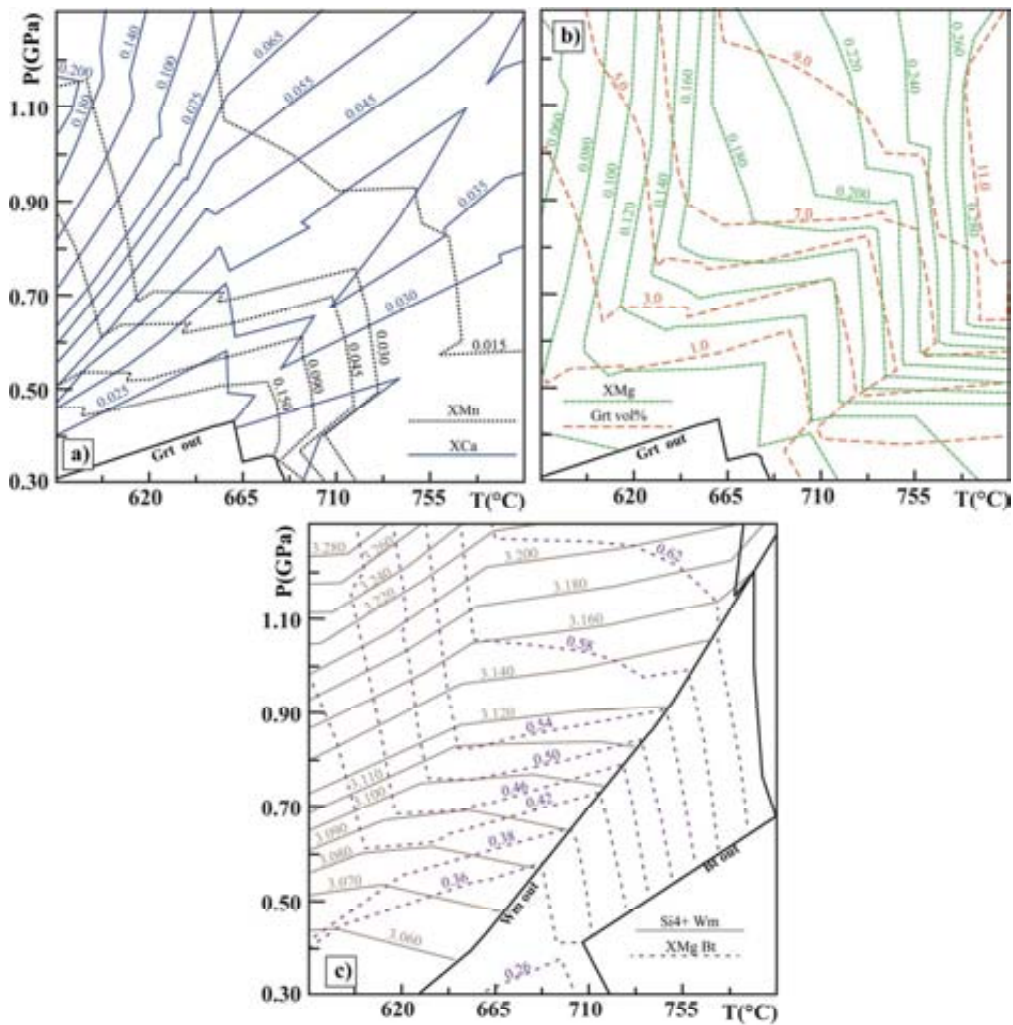


Fig. S5

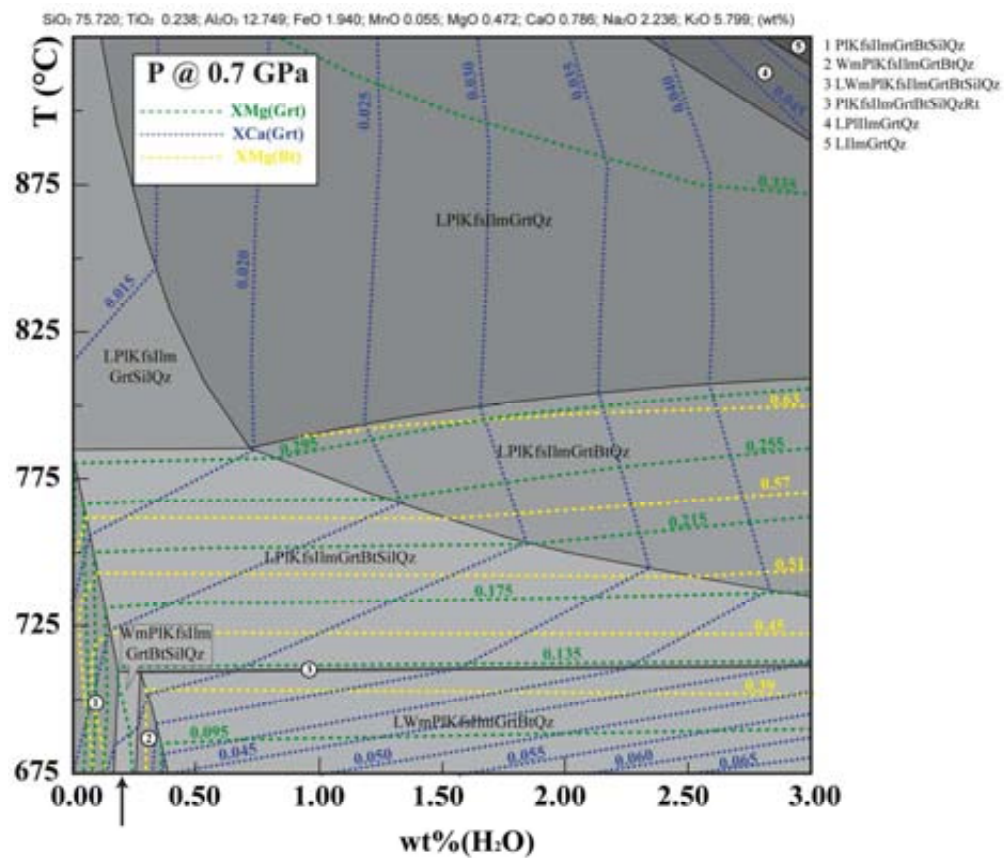


Fig. S6

150x134mm (300 x 300 DPI)

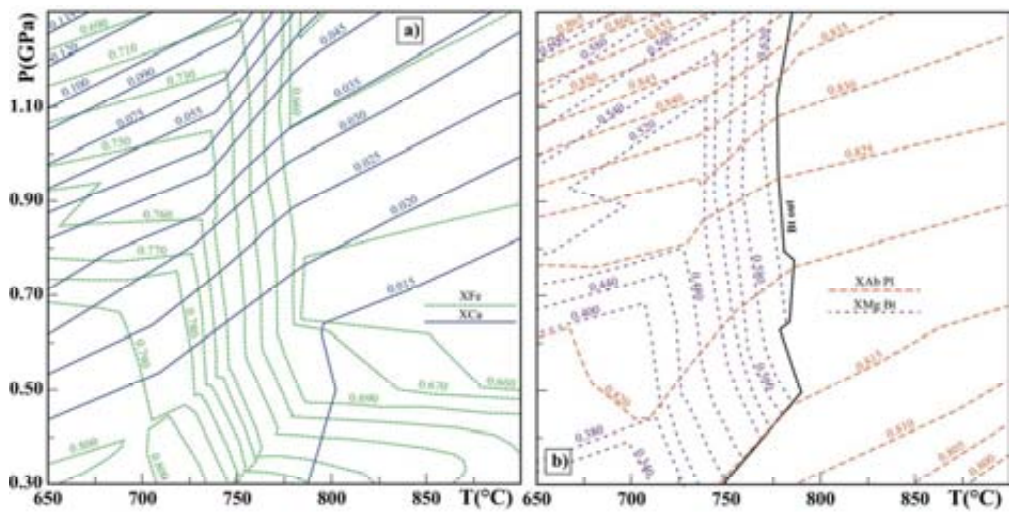


Fig. S7

150x85mm (300 x 300 DPI)

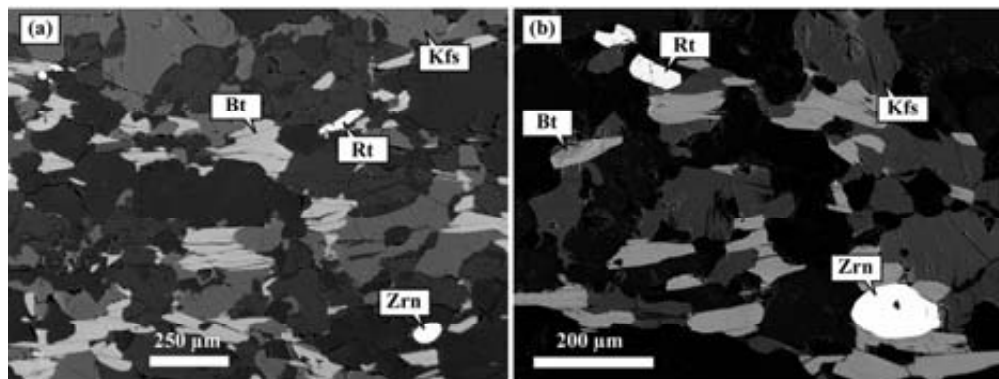


Fig. 58

150x63mm (300 x 300 DPI)